



YOUR TUNBRIDGE WELLS

INSIDE: JOBS • PROPERTY • MOTORS • BUSINESS

JUST EIGHT PENCE IN EVERY POUND COLLECTED STAYS IN THE AREA

Business rates cash is 'lost' to local economy

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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FINANCE chiefs have called for greater control over the millions of pounds they collect from local businesses.

In the next financial year, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council will collect £50million from companies on behalf of the Government with just £3.9m of that available to fund local services.

Lee Colyer, the council's head of finance and governance, said that equated to 92p in every £1 going to the Treasury to be distributed to other councils across the country.

"That is money lost from the local economy," he said. "We want to be in control of our local incomes."

Newly appointed portfolio holder for finance James Scholes said the council had managed to deliver a balanced budget for 2011-12, which went to cabinet on Thursday, and freeze council tax despite unprecedented challenges.

But he predicted any problems would arise because "we cannot control our income".

"If we did our relationship with businesses would alter," Cllr Scholes said. "If we were to be given back that money it would work in the community's interest. It could be much better spent, but it goes into the central coffers."

Mr Colyer added: "We may be able to offer a discounted rate to new businesses that we want to attract to the town."

"To have the power to set the business rate

Continued on page two



ENGLAND'S FAVOURITE HOUSE?

For full story see inside

Website maps out crime near you

A NEW website allows residents to see what crime has been reported where they live, over the past month.

You can check out how many burglaries, robberies, violent crimes, vehicle crime and incidents of anti-social behaviour have taken place in your street. See how Tunbridge Wells compares to other areas.

Kent Police believe it will enhance their service, but others have slammed the scheme as "just a gimmick".

FULL STORY - PAGE 3

Housing and our NHS in conflict

HEALTH bosses have raised concerns over 'too much' affordable housing driving down the price of the Kent and Sussex Hospital site.

The hospitals trust wants to use proceeds from the sale of the land to re-pay a loan used to buy equipment for the new £234million hospital at Pembury.

Now, council planning bosses and the local NHS must struggle to find a balance between the need for affordable homes and getting good value out of the old hospital site.

FULL STORY - PAGE 5

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For reader enquiries about our campaign email keepkentworking@kosmedia.co.uk.

Read updates on our campaign in this newspaper or at www.kentnews.co.uk and www.jobsforkent.co.uk.



Award Winning Company

Referendum 'no' on civic complex raises prospect of resignation

A REFERENDUM on the redevelopment of the civic complex has resulted in a 'no' vote of 56 per cent.

The poll was organised by Cllr Glenn Hall, who balloted residents in his Pantiles and St Mark's ward on Monday.

He pledged to resign from the controversial Tunbridge Wells Regeneration Company, a joint venture between the borough council and developers John Laing, if people were against redeveloping the Grade II-listed site that includes the town hall.

Cllr Hall was unavailable for comment before we went to press.

The council's representation on the regeneration company's board, which is supposed to be equal to that of the private company, is dwindling. Mayor David Jukes resigned last year and now Cllr Hall is set to depart.

Disappointing

Only former deputy leader Catherine Mayhew and the council's chief executive, William Benson, remain as directors of the regeneration company.

The council pointed out that the turnout for the referendum was just 8.4 per cent.

Mr Benson said: "I'm disappointed that this means Cllr Hall is going to resign and we will have to appoint another member of the regeneration company. I accept the fact that he said if it was a 'no' vote he would resign. Clearly we have to wait to see what the broader consultation exercise brings back."

M&N is currently carrying out a borough-wide consultation of the civic complex and is due to report back in March/April.

'Localism' call over business rates



GO FIGURE: Lee Colyer and James Scholes explain the 2011-12 budget to Jenna Pudelek

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

for this area would encourage local businesses to stay in this town and encourage new start-ups."

They agreed the practice of redistributing business rates centrally was at odds with the coalition's 'localism' agenda and plans to devolve more power to local authorities and communities.

Decentralisation minister Greg Clark, the MP for Tunbridge Wells, said the Government was looking at how councils could keep money raised locally to spend locally.

He said: "As part of the Local Government Resource Review, we will be looking at options to enable councils to retain their locally-raised business rates, helping to set free many councils from dependency on central funding and providing incentives for them to promote economic growth through the business rates system."

Despite having less money due to the public spending cuts, the council said it has protected frontline services and found an extra £25,000 to increase community grants for the voluntary sector to £425,000 for the new financial year.

Asked what he was planning to do in his new role, Cllr Scholes said: "More of the same. There is nothing I particularly want to do in terms of changing the strategy or policy."

The council said its actions since the bailout of the banking sector in 2008 had left it in a good position financially.

A staff restructure with 29 redundancies making £1m of savings a year, management of investments and other efficiency savings, as well as sharing services with other councils, meant it was prepared for last year's spending review.

"We have not been blown off course by the frontloading of cuts – a 26 per cent reduction in Government grant over the next two years," Cllr Scholes said.

"But we must not say there are not challenges which could blow us off course. We cannot control our income. When life gets tough, people will spend less."

'Heart Town' joins charity fight against killer disease

HIGH rates of strokes and heart disease in the borough have prompted Tunbridge Wells to join a national charity's latest campaign, *writes Jenna Pudelek*.

The town has become the first in the South East to be named a British Heart Foundation 'Heart Town' and a raft of initiatives will be offered in a bid to improve residents' health and lifestyles.

BHF figures show that coronary heart disease affects 4.3 per cent of the town's population, compared with 3.5 per cent nationally.

Hypertension – or high blood pressure – affects 15.85 per cent of people in Tunbridge Wells and 13.1 per cent nationally.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council leader Cllr Bob Atwood said: "We want to reach out to all members of our community and Heart Towns is a great way to do that."

NHS West Kent said death rates from heart and vascular disease were increasing.

Jessica Mookherjee, assistant director of public health at the primary care trust, said: "Vascular and heart disease are among the biggest killers in Tunbridge Wells, particularly for men. GPs are going a great job in managing the disease, but the death rates are increasing."

"This makes it all the more important for people to take good care of their heart health and it's great that Tunbridge Wells has become a Heart Town."

"Tackling our weight, drinking and smoking can all help us keep a healthy heart – and being happy and relaxed is also important. Ask your GP to test your vascular health, or visit a pharmacy."

The initiative is set to bring people together through fundraising and volunteering as well as raising awareness about heart dis-



ease and offering a range of support services in schools and workplaces.

Kim Brophy, the charity's volunteer fundraising manager in Tunbridge Wells, said: "We are delighted the borough council has decided to become a Heart Town."

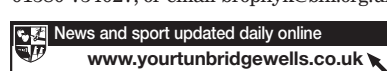
"We'll be working with the community to raise awareness of heart disease and raise money for the BHF's Mending Broken Hearts appeal."

The appeal marks the charity's 50th anniversary and is its biggest ever fundraising push. The aim is to raise £50 million to fund medical research that could begin to mend broken hearts, in as little as 10 years and save and improve the lives of millions within decades.

The charity is looking to towns like Tunbridge Wells to support the appeal and become Heart Towns to raise awareness about heart and circulatory disease – the UK's biggest killer.

Money raised will go towards groundbreaking research on helping the heart to repair itself.

To find out how to get involved, visit bhf.org.uk/hearttowns; call Ms Brophy on 01580 754027; or email brophyk@bhf.org.uk.



Climate meeting challenge to MP

CLIMATE campaigners will this week challenge Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark to do more to protect the environment.

The decentralisation minister is due to take part in a meeting organised by Friends of the Earth about Prime Minister David Cameron's pledge to be the "greenest Government ever".

Craig Bennett, FoE's policy and campaigns director, will address the audience.

He said: "We urgently need a new local approach to cut climate-changing emissions and create clean, green communities throughout the UK."

"FoE is calling for a nationwide system of local carbon budgets to help councils get behind cost-effective, green measures like insulating homes and improving public transport – creating jobs, slashing fuel bills and reducing CO2 at the same time."

As a government minister and former shadow secretary of state for energy and climate change, Mr Clark has a key role in helping shape the Government's role in protecting the environment.

FoE campaigner Kate Sergeant said: "Local people are really concerned about climate change and want to see more action taken at local and national levels."

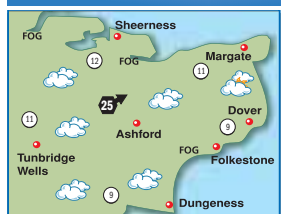
"Not all councils are playing their part – the Government could act to encourage councils to do more."

Mr Cameron announced his aim to lead "the greenest Government ever" at a Department of Energy and Climate Change conference in May, last year.

Gary Stevenson, head of environment and street scene at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council will also be speaking at the meeting, on Thursday evening.

The free event takes place at the Friends' Meeting House, Grosvenor Park, from 7pm.

Weather



Sun & Moon

Sunrise	7.28am	Sunset	4.51pm
Moonrise	7.52am	Moonset	7.52pm

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	00.06 8.6 12.27 6.4	00.51 8.6 12.58 6.3
Margate	01.02 4.7 13.29 4.5	01.58 4.7 14.00 4.5
St Mary's	06.00 5.6 18.15 5.4	06.30 5.5 18.45 5.3

Around Britain

	°C	°F		°C	°F		°C	°F
Aberdeen	drizzle	7 45	Edinburgh	rain	8 46	Newcastle	rain	11 52
Belfast	rain	8 46	Glasgow	rain	9 48	Norwich	shwrs	13 55
B'ham	rain	12 54	Isle of Man	rain	11 52	Oxford	cloudy	12 54
B'ristol	cloudy	11 52	Leeds	rain	10 50	Southsea	shwrs	10 50
Bristol	shwrs	10 50	London	cloudy	13 55	Shampton	cloudy	12 54
Cardiff	rain	12 54	Liverpool	rain	11 52	Southport	rain	10 50
Cork	rain	10 50	Manchester	rain	11 52	Swansea	rain	10 50

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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Restaurant welcomes TV chef



GOURMET EXPERIENCE: The Globe and Rainbow restaurant will welcome award-winning chef Atul Kochhar, right, as a guest chef for one night only

AN award-winning celebrity chef is set to wow diners with his unique flavours at one of the county's top village inns, *writes Sian Gordon*.

Atul Kochhar, the first Indian chef to receive a coveted Michelin Star, is set to serve a selection of his trademark dishes at the Globe and Rainbow in Kilndown, near Cranbrook, on May 11.

The chef, whose restaurant Benares is in the heart of Mayfair, is a television regular, with appearances on the BBC's Great British Menu, Masterchef, Saturday Kitchen and most recently on Good Food, with Atul Kochhar Spice Kitchen: Malaysia.

In partnership with Neil Scott, head chef and owner of the Globe & Rainbow, Mr Kochhar will deliver a memorable culinary experience for 50 guests.

Mr Scott said: "Atul Kochhar is an exceptional chef, fully deserving of his Michelin star."

"To welcome him to our restaurant is both an honour and a privilege and I can't wait to get cooking with him."

Diners will have the opportunity to sample wines chosen to perfectly compliment the food Atul prepares.

Early booking is recommended. Visit www.globeandrainbow.co.uk to book a table for this event.



Crime maps 'just a gimmick'

NEW interactive maps showing people how much crime there is where they live have been branded a gimmick, by the chair of the county's police federation.

Ian Pointon said it was not clear what the system, which was launched on Tuesday, was meant to achieve, and that money should be

By **MARIJKE COX**

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spent more wisely by the Government, such as on frontline policing.

Figures, which date from December 2010, varied across the county, but in all cases the number of anti-social behaviour reports was high. Tunbridge Wells saw 170 cases of anti-social behaviour and 32 violent crimes, with a total of 328 crimes.

In comparison, Margate saw 438 crimes, 193 of which were anti-social behaviour and 76 violent crime. Ashford centre had 242 crimes and Maidstone 469, with 166 anti-social behaviour, 28 vehicle crimes and 61 violent crimes.

But Mr Pointon urged caution, and warned the new crime maps, which cost £300,000 to roll out nationwide, could also be counterproductive in reducing fear of crime.

"There could be 20 incidents of anti-social behaviour show up in your area, but they could be something to do with a bit of noise or inconsiderate parking – it doesn't necessarily mean there are drunken yobs causing trouble," he said.

"Kent is a safe county, but this could scare people."

"This is always the difficulty. People believe there is more crime happening than there is."

"Kent Police has been working to stop fear of crime, and yet this potentially heightens that fear."

The new scheme allows residents to immediately see what crime has been reported where they live within the past month, showing burglaries, robberies, vio-

lent crime, vehicle crime, other crimes and anti-social behaviour, simply by typing in their postcode at www.police.uk.

Visitors to the site are also given information about beat meetings and how to contact their local policing team.

Huge demand during the launch saw the system crash as millions across the country tried to find out what misdemeanours had happened in their street.

Mr Pointon said: "People instinctively know where the bad crime areas are. Do they really want to know what's going on in their street?"

"My fear is this is something of a gimmick. If money is going to be thrown at anything, it should be more police officers."

"We'll have to see what has happened in four or five years. There might be a state-of-the-art IT system, but no officers on the streets."

But others welcomed the scheme.

Chair of Kent Police Authority Ann Barnes said she was delighted street level crime mapping had been launched.

"Transparency and openness should be at the heart of every public service," she said.

"Now for the first time the public will be able to see where crime is taking place, as well as information on how to contact their local neighbourhood officer."

"I'm confident this data will help to enhance the policing service the public of Kent and Medway receive, and can assure everyone in our communities that members of the Police Authority will, on their behalf, have a very clear watching brief."

Kent Police's Deputy Chief Constable, Alan Pughley, added: "By making this information available, we aim to raise awareness of what we're doing to tackle crime and disorder and how people can support their local police."



STREET LEVEL CRIME: The interactive map shows crime levels in Tunbridge Wells

Top homes on shortlist

HISTORIC Groombridge Place is among the estates shortlisted for an award to find England's favourite house.

The moated manor house on the site is famed for its beautiful gardens and enchanted forest, which are open to the public.

Country Life magazine launched the award last autumn, and has shortlisted 12 houses of "exceptional beauty and impeccable lineage".

Groombridge Place was built in 1662 by the architect Philip Parker, with help from his friend Sir Christopher Wren.

The house is within a designated area of outstanding natural beauty and is surrounded by formal gardens dating from the 17th century. It has been a film location several times, most recently as Longbourn Manor in Joe Wright's 2005 adaptation of Pride and Prejudice, starring Keira Knightley.

Hole Park, in Rolvenden, has also been selected as a finalist, from nearly 150 nomi-



BEAUTY: Moated manor house Groombridge Place has been the setting for several films

nations for England's Favourite House. The house has been in the Barham family for four generations and is set in the High Weald in 15 acres of garden, overlooking 200 acres of parkland. Built in 1720, Hole Park was remodelled in 1830 and reduced in 1959.

The judging panel's decision will be made in a few weeks.

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Child road casualties are up

By **MARIJKE COX**

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THE number of children killed or seriously injured on the county's roads has risen, new police figures have revealed.

So far there have been 57 child casualties – more than one a week – this financial year, already more than the whole of 2009-10, which saw 49.

Bucking the trend is west Kent, which has seen an overall reduction. The area, including Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks and Tonbridge, had among the highest number of casualties in the county last year with a total of 10, but 2010-11 has seen a reduction to eight.

However, as police said, every one person killed or injured is one too many.

Kent Police has pledged to step up enforcement over the next two weeks as 22 of the incidents happened during school journey times.

Overall in the past 10 years the number of children killed or seriously injured on Kent roads has been reduced by 60 per cent – exceeding the government target of a 50 per cent fall by December 2010 – the force said it would be educating drivers and youngsters to stop figures rising.

FACT FILE

Child casualties

	2009/10	2010/11
North Kent	4	10
West Kent	10	8
Mid Kent	4	4
Medway	8	10
East Kent	11	11
South Kent	11	12
Strategic road network (ie M20, M25)	1	2
Total	49	57

Inspector Paul Sellwood from Kent Police's Roads Policing Unit said: "The most traumatic thing to happen to any family is losing a child. In the last few months there has been a rise in child casualties that we are keen to reduce.

"So by stepping up our enforcement, working alongside our road safety partners, we aim to prevent any more families suffering the loss or injury of a child.

"We want to reduce the risk to child pedestrians by educating them on visibility, distractions, like using mp3 players and mobile phones whilst walking, and the best places to cross the road.

"In addition, we want to reduce the risk by educating drivers on issues around speed, seatbelts, distractions like mobile phones and responsible parking."

He added: "Every life is important and even one person killed or seriously injured is one person too many."

Police officers will be enforcing the 'big



four' motoring related offences; speeding, not wearing a seatbelt, using a mobile phone whilst driving and drink driving.

Although the number of children involved in road incidents has risen, overall the number of

people killed or seriously injured in Kent and Medway has reduced over the past year.

In 2009/10 there were 569 casualties compared with 499 so far this financial year, up to January 5. In addition, the number of motorcyclists killed or seriously injured has fallen from 143 in 2009/10 to 114 to date.

But Kent Police and the force's partners have stressed the importance of enhancing road safety, particularly focusing on youngsters.

Awareness

Steve Horton from Kent Highway Services' road safety team said children are amongst the most vulnerable road users.

"It is crucial that children are allowed to develop appropriate coping strategies for when they are dealing with roads, so we deliver education activity and awareness-raising campaigns," he said.

"Secondly, and most critically, we believe drivers should not be surprised when children act like children and therefore may act erratically at the roadside.

"The question to drivers is 'are you ready to deal with it when it happens?'"

"The speed at which vehicles move in urban and residential areas is the determining factor in the severity of any crash they are involved in.

"This, reducing driver distractions and the importance of ensuring children are properly and appropriately restrained in vehicles, is likely to have the most dramatic effect on cutting death and injury to our most vulnerable road users."

Cabinet member for frontline services at Medway Council Phil Filmer said it was vital to get across road safety messages in the next 12 months and that the authority would be working closely with schools.

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Volunteers are all a-buzz for world record

A GIANT bee house built at a nature reserve has been confirmed as the largest in the world by Guinness World Records.

A team of staff and volunteers from Kent Wildlife Trust constructed the 16ft 5in by 7ft 9in structure at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve last summer.

They hoped the permanent bee house, which is accessed off Bradbourne Vale Road, would be validated as the largest in the world, but have had to wait until this week for the final decision.

The wildlife charity and everyone involved in the project can now celebrate going into the record books.

The project was managed by Amanda Hamley, community fundraising and events manager for the trust, who said: "This is brilliant news. The house makes a great visitor attraction. It should also serve to remind people of the plight of bees – with many species in serious decline – and hopefully encourage Kent residents to create simple bee houses for their own gardens."

The house has been carefully designed to encourage the nesting of solitary bees – which are considered to be equally as important to the food chain as bumble bees and honey bees.

New equipment to be paid for by sale of old hospital site

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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HEALTH bosses and planning chiefs are locked in negotiations over the future of the Kent and Sussex Hospital site.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust plans to put the proceeds from the sale of the old site, which was valued at £19.9million in February 2010, towards paying for equipment for its new state-of-the-art hospital at Pembury.

But local planning authority, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, has increased the amount of affordable housing large developments have to include from 30 to 35 per cent. This decreases the land's value to £12m.

Now, the two sides must find a balance between the need for affordable housing in the area and getting the best value from the sale of the old hospital.

Equipment for the new £234m private finance initiative (PFI) hospital, which is due to open fully this September, is being funded by a public sector loan.

Interest

The trust plans to repay part of the loan using proceeds from the sale of the Kent and Sussex. If sufficient funds are not raised, the local NHS faces incurring interest on the loan over a longer period of time.

At the same time the trust is locked into a contract with its PFI consortium to repay the cost of the new hospital over 30 years with annual payments increasing in line with inflation.

Graham Goddard, the trust's new hospital development director, said: "It is important that we look at different scenarios and their potential implications and work as closely as possible with our local council on the best option for all."

"We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful asset in K&S and by making the best we can of the site we can reinvest in the very best health services."

The trust said it had looked at different sales scenarios including the worst case, where the site's value would fall if affordable housing levels were set too high.

William Benson, the council's chief executive, said both sides were working

Drop in land value strains NHS finances



FOR THE FUTURE: A loan to fund state-of-the-art equipment for the new hospital at Pembury was due to be paid off with cash from the sale of the old hospital site

to resolve the affordable housing issue.

"Discussions are ongoing and constructive. We are in positive dialogue with the trust," he said.

The trust and council are currently embroiled in pre-application discussions.

Since the hospital first began to look at the sale of the old site, the council has upped the percentage of affordable housing required to help balance the local market. The world has also changed since plans for the sale were put together, with the recession and the struggling property market.

The trust is now reviewing its planned equipment for the new hospital, the first phase of which opened to patients last week.

Meanwhile, plans to replace the crumbling buildings, the earliest of which date back to the 1930s, on the Kent and Sussex site with a mixed development of housing, shops and offices were revealed last year.

During a three day consultation, residents raised concerns about parking and transport in the Mount Ephraim area.

Distraction thefts in supermarkets

POLICE have warned shoppers to be wary of thieves using distraction tactics to steal handbags and purses at supermarkets.

In the latest incident, a 73-year-old woman discovered her purse missing after she helped a man who was asking for directions at Sainsbury's car park in Linden Park Road, Tunbridge Wells, on Monday, January 25, at around 3.15pm.

A police spokeswoman said: "This incident is similar to a series of thefts across the county last year. During these incidents the shopper was unaware that when they were at the till using a card someone was watching them and making a note of the PIN they entered."

"The shoppers were then targeted when they put their shopping in their car."

"A man would approach asking for directions, distracting the shopper to allow someone else to remove the cards from the unlocked vehicle. The victims always described the man who distracted them as foreign."

Detective Constable Dennis Fogel, who investigated and charged people in connection with the thefts last year, said: "Make sure when you pay by card you cover up the keypad as you enter your PIN. Be wary of someone trying to talk to you as you are loading your car. If you're happy to speak lock the car first."

Wheelchair used to steal statue

A MARBLE bust of a woman and a wheelchair have been stolen from a village church.

The items went missing from St Peter and St Paul's in Shoreham, near Sevenoaks, between noon on Friday, January 28, and 7.30am on the following Sunday.

Police believe the wheelchair may have been used to take the heavy, two-foot bust away.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact police on 01732 379217 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

New chief ready to guide our NHS through change

HEALTH bosses are preparing to implement the Government's controversial and sweeping shakeup of the NHS.

The county's three primary care trusts (PCTs), which includes NHS West Kent, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent and NHS Medway, are set to merge before being abolished completely in 2013.

As the Health Bill worked its way through Parliament this week, it was announced that Ann Sutton, the current chief executive of the east Kent PCT will lead the new county-wide 'cluster' from April.

Ms Sutton, designate chief executive for the NHS in Kent and Medway, said: "I am very pleased to have been asked to lead the NHS in Kent and Medway through the critical period of change over the next couple of years. I welcome GPs taking a more promi-

nent leadership role but there is much to do in supporting GPs and others in the move to the new ways of working."

"As well as supporting GP colleagues in setting up their commissioning expertise for the future, we must also ensure that the health services people need continue to be delivered properly and efficiently."

PCTs are currently responsible for planning and buying healthcare services. Under the coalition's reorganization plans, GPs will take over this role and control 80 per cent of the health budget.

Newly formed General Practice Commissioning Consortia – groups of local family doctors – will plan and buy healthcare for their communities.

The GPs will take over when PCTs cease to exist from April 1, 2013.

A TEENAGER stole a woman's purse after tricking his way into her home when selling cleaning items door-to-door.

Police said the offender, who was aged about 18, knocked on the door of the 82-year-old woman in Wheatshaf Way, Tonbridge, on Tuesday, January 25, at about 3.45pm.

He told her he was selling cleaning products and asked if he could use her toilet. After he had

gone the victim realised her purse was missing.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Jon Turtle said: "If you are not expecting a caller don't let them in. If you are at all concerned phone the police."

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact police on 01732 379217 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Information can also be emailed to appeals.westkent@kent.pnn.police.uk.



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THE INTERVIEW



BY STEVE KNIGHT

Big business is child's play

WHEN it comes to Jaques of London's global reputation, the family behind the 216-year-old games manufacturer admit it should probably be better known than it currently is.

Despite being the firm that invented such classic past-times as snakes and ladders, croquet and ludo, the Edenbridge-based enterprise is still working on building up its brand identity due to past failures to trademark their most successful items.

But with a dynamic young team at the top of the company – including commercial director Joe Jaques – a return to the glory days may be just around the corner.

"When we took over the family business 10 years ago, the name Jaques wasn't even trademarked," said Mr Jaques.

"A company in India had registered the name in England to associate itself with the modern day chess sets, which we also invented. So we had to fight them in the courts to get the rights for our own company name.

"We should probably fight all the other companies that have released croquet sets, snakes and ladders games and so on, but how much time would that take?

"I'd end up fighting for everything we haven't got rather than everything we have."

Established by Thomas Jaques in 1795, Jaques of London is credited with inventing numerous world-famous games over the years including Happy Families, Snap and tiddlywinks.

It also created the Staunton chess set and therefore playing pieces such as the rook and knight, and was the sole importer of Nintendo playing cards long before the Japanese firm branched out into the video game market.

Joe Jaques and his cousin Emmett – the firm's managing director – are the eighth generation of their family to have run the company, and are only too aware of the responsibility that lies on their shoulders.

"An unbroken family chain is very rare, and despite lots of takeover bids we still are who we are," said Mr Jaques.

"We are a reasonable size and could easily



FUN AND GAMES: Joe Jaques is looking to grow the reputation of his family business

sell out and retire, but that would be like selling the family silver.

"We always had lots of games in my house when we were young, but the fact my family invented most of them was never this big

thing that was instilled in us. When I came into the business it was actually a nice surprise.

"At the time we weren't even selling games like ludo and snakes and ladders, but now



we've invested in our brand we're in a better position to sell luxury versions of the things we are famous for."

Today Jaques is building a reputation for its wide range of high-quality games, from intricately-crafted versions of traditional draughts and backgammon sets to original 3D puzzles and garden toys.

The firm also creates more modern products such as pool tables, table football sets and air hockey tables.

"There isn't a business around that hasn't had a few scary moments over the past couple of years, but our sales are actually surprisingly strong," said Mr Jaques.

"Historically games have been fairly stable in recessions, mainly because people tend to stay at home more. Recessions also make people value what they've got a lot more, and our products are all about family. They span generations and know no age limits."

Having survived the birth of the radio, television and video games, Jaques of London shows little signs of slowing, with its commercial director now hoping to crack America and beyond while continuing to grow the brand in the UK.

"There was a point in the past 100 years when Jaques was a household name, and that's what I'd like to achieve again," said Mr Jaques, when asked what his long-term ambitions for the company were.

"That's a fairly simple answer but there really is the potential in the business to make it a high street recognised name.

"I'd love to break America too, and have our website in the States taking orders every 30 seconds.

"But one thing I'd really love to do is sell ping pong equipment to the Chinese. That would be an absolutely wonderful thing to achieve."

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Thousands to run rings around castle

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

HEVER Castle is set to provide a stunning backdrop for the country's third largest triathlon event this summer.

It is the third time that the grounds of Anne Boleyn's childhood home near Edenbridge has hosted the races and thousands of people of all ages and abilities are expected to take part.

Duncan Leslie, chief executive of Hever Castle, said: "The castle lends itself to a triathlon offering acres of beautiful grounds and a stunning lake setting.

"Families and individuals taking part last year welcomed the opportunity to mix a sporting event with an enjoyable day out, and even learn a bit about history. We look forward to another exciting event this year."

The Hever Castle event on September 24-25 is one of four races in the Castle Triathlon Series held at historic sites in England as well as the Château de Chantilly, France.

Evening Sprint events will also be held this year at Hever on May 11, June 8 and July 13 so people can take part after work or school.

The triathlon is renowned for offering a stunning and motivational race setting with 4,000 people taking part last year, when the recently titled world amateur triathlon champions, Jill Parker and Colin Dixon, won their respective elite races.

An official Olympic distance race will also be on offer again, giving triathletes and teams the choice of three distances.



CONTEST: Triathletes run, swim and cycle

Hever's is the biggest children's triathlon in the country and more than 1,000 are set to take part this year.

Race director Brian Adcock said: "There are very few triathlons that offer such stunning surroundings and a professional and caring event.

"We were particularly impressed with the standard of the elite racers, along with the strong entries and interest from children and families this year.

"The Castle Series is really going places and we are looking forward to building on it with the introduction of the Evening Sprint Series to the 2011 programme."

Competitors range from elite stars, to first-timers and children (aged 8 to 15).

Triathletes are encouraged to raise money for national charity Help for Heroes, and local charities: Jigsaw4U, supporting the Hever Castle Triathlon weekend and Talking2Minds for Evening Sprint Series.

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Early help that changes lives

A CHARITY that supports blind people has called for more early intervention in the lives of vulnerable children, **writes Jenna Pudelek.**

The Royal London Society for the Blind, based in Seal near Sevenoaks, welcomed a Government-commissioned report that makes the case for projects that work with young children to prevent them 'going off the rails'.

Labour MP Graham Allen's report found that more early intervention programmes for youngsters would help break cycles of "underachievement and dysfunction" and save taxpayers money in the long term.

Dorton House Nursery, which is run by the charity, looks after children aged two to five who are blind and partially-sighted and may also have additional needs.

Maggie Bindon, the nursery's manager, said: "The report is very much in line with the vision of our charity – which is to ensure that blind or partially-sighted children grow up with the same life chances as their sighted peers."

"Early intervention among small children with visual impairment can make such a difference to the quality of their lives."

"Working closely with parents, we stimulate children's residual vision. We give them the language development, the socialisation skills, the movement – the building blocks for later life."

The nursery also works to conquer the natural isolation of blind or partially-sighted children.

Ms Bindon added: "You would expect a child who hasn't had that early intervention



CASE STUDY

Jack Fowler, who lives in Sevenoaks, is an identical twin who, like his brother Freddie and their mother Kirsty, has a form of dwarfism.

The five-year-old was also born with cerebral palsy and impaired vision. In 2008 he became a pupil at Dorton House Nursery, with the support of a bursary.

His mother explained how he has benefited from the specialist services at Dorton. She said: "When he first went to the nursery he had a squint in his right eye. He was very quiet."

"He didn't communicate. He had an extremely limited vocabulary, even for a three-year-old. While Freddie was chattering away, Jack was in his shell."

"Dorton House fits the school specifically to each child. They brought him out of his shell. Through a range of therapies such as light and music, and staff working one-to-one, they did so much for him."

Now, Jack is able to go to Valence School, in nearby Westerham, which offers education, social and health care to children with physical disabilities and complex medical needs.

"He is extremely happy," said Mrs Fowler. "The squint has gone, he communicates well and his speech is clear enough for most other people to understand."

to be much less independent. They would possibly be lacking in social skills. Small children who cannot see very well – or not at all



HAPPY: Jack Fowler has made great progress, with support from Dorton House

"In his first term he won the award for the most outstanding student of his year. Hopefully Jack will achieve whatever he wants to achieve – and it's all down to the foundations for learning that were put into place at the Dorton."

She hopes Jack will go on to achieve

good GCSE results and go on to college, university or straight into work.

Mrs Fowler added: "If you don't intervene early, you are putting more pressure on the taxpayer, because those children are going to grow up being more of a burden on society. Early intervention makes good sense."

– miss out on all the incidental learning of a sighted child.

"But if you work with these vulnerable

children at an early age, then whole new pathways can form in the brain, which benefit them now and in later life."



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Babies mark birth of a new era

THE first baby – William Rory Valentine – has been born at the new state-of-the-art hospital at Pembury.

Head of midwifery Gillian Duffey presented his parents, Diane and Mark, with a certificate to mark the special occasion.

William, who weighed in at 8lbs 14ozs, is brother to two-year-old Ciara. His parents, who live in Kemsing, said they were impressed with facilities at the £235million private finance initiative hospital, which was recommended to them by midwives in Sevenoaks.

Born at 12.28am last Wednesday, he was one of six babies to arrive during the night.

Women's and children's services had moved over to the new site that day from the old Pembury hospital.



Baby Hector was the last arrival at the old hospital. His mother Valentina Osborn, 20, and her partner Chris de Ruset, proudly showed off their 8lbs 12oz son, who was born last Tuesday morning.

Ms Osborn, of



BUNDLES OF JOY: William is welcomed to the world. Hector, right, was the final birth in the old hospital

Silverdale Road in Tunbridge Wells, was among 37 patients safely transferred to the new hospital.

She said she was "very impressed" with the new facilities and said she kept forgetting she was in a hospital because it is more like a hotel.

Booze and drugs charity warns of rise in addiction

£150,000 is needed as funding cuts threaten future of educational service

VITAL work to stop young people becoming addicted to drugs and alcohol is threatened by a funding crisis.

John Shanley, youth services team leader at addiction charity the Kenward Trust, said £150,000 was needed to continue educating and supporting teenagers across west Kent.

His team is currently funded by community safety partnerships in Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and Maidstone, as well as Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Network.

But the money runs out this March due to Government spending cuts and the charity, which helps people with drug and alcohol addictions, is looking for private funding options.

Mr Shanley works with young people before they become addicted or develop significant problems with drugs and alcohol. His team goes into areas where there have been complaints about underage drinking and drug-taking and offers young people information and advice known as 'low intervention'.

But he is concerned that if his team's work is cut it will put pressure on other services.

"If we are not going to be working at the lower level on education and intervention then they are going to end up getting more problematic children coming through other serv-

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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ices," he said. "It will put pressure at a higher level."

Mr Shanley and his team have gone into 'hot spots' to curb underage drinking and the antisocial behaviour that goes with it.

He said that last year was the best in terms of seeing a reduction in alcohol in his 12 years working in the county. This has been achieved by working with young people, finding them alternative activities to drinking and working with shopkeepers to cut off their supply.

However, the problem is ongoing and Mr Shanley was called in to talk to teenagers found drinking in the Calverley Grounds in Tunbridge Wells last Friday.

He is also concerned about an increasing number of young people smoking cannabis.

Education

"Every area has its problems," he said. "This year with alcohol one of the main issues has been antisocial behaviour due to excessive drinking."

"With alcohol problems it is seasonal and you know when they are going to pop up. When they arise we go and educate young people in that area."

So-called hotspots for underage

drinking emerge much quicker thanks to social networking sites such as Facebook.

Mr Shanley said: "Sometimes it can be just a group of about three, but you can also suddenly get 30 to 40 there once it gets to be known as a drinking spot. With social networking the word spreads much quicker and that's when it starts escalating."

Asked if young people were drinking more and at an earlier age, he said: "There are alco-pops and things like vodka milkshakes, which are sweet and easier to drink, and more palatable to young people."

"They are easy to drink and they do not realise the dangers... We still get lots of work coming in and because we cannot guarantee after March that we'll have funding, we have to turn a bit of work away."

Cannabis and alcohol remain the most easily available drugs to young people, he said: "In my view cannabis is on the increase, the referral rate has gone up a lot and it is very noticeable at the moment."

Solvents have also been a recent problem: "In East Malling there was an issue with solvent abuse and petrol."

"A couple of children came home with burns. Obviously it's very dangerous and we worked with the local PCSO. It was a one off incident, but we also found a big shed where young people had been drinking."

YOUNG cyclists can take part in a new eight week mountain bike course.

The course will be at Trosley Country Park near Wrotham and is open to eight to 16 years of different abilities starting on February 12.

Cyclists will be taught about bike safety, how to read a cycle trail and

plan their route, breaking control, descending and climbing, cornering at speed and dealing with obstacles.

The beginners session runs from 11am to 12.30pm, experienced riders will take part between 1pm and 2.30pm. The course costs £40. For details call 01732 876166 or email leisure.services@tmbc.gov.uk.

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Paying the price of caring

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AFTER successful careers, watching their children grow up and leave home, John and Wilna Roberts should be enjoying a comfortable retirement together.

But as they approach their 81st birthdays, Mrs Roberts is concerned about how she will continue to afford to care for her husband, who has Alzheimer's disease, in their Sevenoaks home as his condition deteriorates.

The former teacher has watched her husband, a retired physicist, succumb to the disease over the last decade. He now cannot remember anything for more than two or three minutes and has difficulty walking and finds it confusing in large groups of people.

"He was very intelligent, interested in music, history and science, and he still is," Mrs Roberts said. "He still watches programmes on the TV on science that you or I would not understand and he is absorbed."

"But he cannot remember. He loves history and music, but it is difficult to take him places because he cannot walk very well and some of the toilets are not accessible. He cannot get through crowds, so I cannot take him to many places, but I take him out every day."

Mrs Roberts has tried to maintain the busy and social lifestyle they enjoyed before Alzheimer's. The couple were considered too well off to receive free NHS care, but she uses her carer's allowance, topped up with their own money, to get a carer so she can meet friends and go to museums and art galleries.



EXHAUSTING: Looking after someone with Alzheimers is a full-time job for many carers

"I get three hours a week from an organisation called Crossroads. The carer will take John out and look after him while I do my class in art and architecture," she said.

"I pay for another carer myself, so that I can go to London and meet friends. She cleans for me and looks after John. I say that I've spent £50 before I go out of the door."

A report published by the Alzheimer's Society last week found that 50 per cent of carers in the South East said the person they looked after with dementia was not receiving sufficient care and support. Nationally, the study found that the substandard care would result in 50,000 people with dementia being forced into care homes early.

With the number of people with dementia in Kent set to rise from 17,573 to 24,324 by 2021, the pressure on already-stretched services will increase.

"Alzheimer's is very exhausting," Mrs Roberts said. "You have to look after someone 24/7. I have also found there is not enough of the right type of professional care available."

The charity's report heard from carers that their loved ones had been left bedridden, wearing unchanged incontinence pads and malnourished.

Mrs Roberts said the right support was vital, saying: "Without a carer I would be desperate. They take him out. I think it is very important for him to get out and walk."

The couple have a good support network, but Mrs Roberts is concerned about the future. She said: "I worry if I was to get ill and there were two of us to look after."

"My aim is to keep John at home if I can get enough support to do it. Eventually we are going to need more help. My worry is that it won't be there, because of the cutbacks."

"The Government gives you some help, but with the cost of care going up all the time, the pension you had 20 years ago does not go as far."

Mrs Roberts spoke about the effect that Alzheimer's has on families and friends, but she also spoke about happier moments.

The couple had not been to the cinema in two years, but they recently went to watch *The King's Speech*, with the help of a friend.

"We enjoyed that, it relates to a period of time when we were children," she said, saying it did not matter if he forgot it straight away as long as he enjoyed it at the time.

Mrs Roberts added: "I want to raise awareness, so people understand what the problems are if they meet someone with dementia. I hope that eventually the Government will give it a higher priority."

A spokeswoman for NHS West Kent said: "The focus of the West Kent Dementia Strategy is to support people with dementia in their own homes for as long as possible and provide more care and treatment."

The primary care trust provides a dementia crisis service, which aims to prevent unnecessary hospital admissions by providing specialist support in the home. There are eight Admiral Nurses in the area, who specialise in dementia, and there is a Kent and Medway DementiaWeb and 24-hour helpline service on 0845 604 4391.

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Family-run gastro pub voted best in South East

By **JON COATES**

A VILLAGE inn has won an award for being the Best Gastro Pub in London and the South East.

The Chaser Inn in Shipbourne was given the accolade at the London24 Food and Drink Awards, after attracting the most public votes.

On the same day, the group which owns the pub, Whiting and Hammond, was named as a finalist in the Great British Pub Awards, run by industry paper the Morning Advertiser.

They are one of three finalists in the Food Operator of the Year (unbranded) category for the top pub industry awards, which will be announced in March.

Surprise

Brian Whiting, the managing director of Whiting and Hammond, said the London24 award for the Chaser Inn came as a complete surprise.

He said: "We are very proud of winning this award as it is voted for by the general public. This is a fantastic recognition of all the hard work of the crew at the Chaser, week in and week out."

The winners of the Great British Pub Awards will be announced at a ceremony at the Plaisterers Hall, in London, on Thursday, March 10.

Mr Whiting said: "We now employ more than 260 people across the seven sites we own. If we were to win, this would be great recognition for every one of them."

"Without their hard work the company would not be successful today and it's nice to hear good news regarding the pub industry."

The family-run chain of gastro pubs also includes The Little Brown Jug in Chiddingstone Causeway, the Cricketers Inn in Meopham, The Old Mill in Dunning Mill, East Grinstead, The Mark Cross in Mark Cross, The Farm @ Friday St, Eastbourne, and The View restaurant at K College in Brook Street, Tonbridge.



AWARD: The Chaser Inn in Shipbourne has been voted best Gastro pub

A WOMAN has been jailed for five months for forcing an elderly woman to give her money for gardening work she failed to carry out.

Ivy Devell, 33, of Brook Road, Tunbridge Wells, pleaded guilty to fraud when she appeared at West Kent Magistrates Court in London Road, Sevenoaks, on Monday, January 24.

The court heard that Devell had called at the home of a 73-year-old woman in Queen's Road,

Tunbridge Wells, on August 15 last year.

She told her she was there to do the gardening and would need £40 to do the work. Feeling intimidated the victim agreed to the demand and Devell took her to an ATM to get the cash.

Devell then left, saying she would be back to undertake the work, but did not return.

The resident reported her to the police, but a week later Devell returned and tried to get the victim to open her door, but was unsuccessful.

After the sentencing, Detective Constable Bob Baigent, who investigated the case, said: "The court heard that Ivy Devell has previously committed offences against elderly victims."

"To prey on vulnerable people by intimidating them or tricking them is cowardly."

"If you have elderly neighbours or relatives please remind them not to engage with unexpected callers, and never hand over money to anyone who says they're there to do some work."

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Tragedy of the trees

As the child of a Second World War pilot, I saw with absolute horror and sadness, that one of the first things done to sort out the supposed bad state of the Tonbridge War Memorial was to cut down the only three mature, beautiful and healthy Ash trees in the garden.

The fact that a couple of rows of saplings have been planted elsewhere is not the point. That Tonbridge and Malling Council has contributed £25,000 of rate-payers money to help towards this project of the British Legion and others compounds my anger.

While I accept that the area gets strewn with litter (where doesn't?) and that it is a haven for 'unacceptable activities' (I presume this means kids larking about of an evening, drinking etc) why oh why are three trees the first victims?

These trees gave softness, contour, dappled shade, a home to birds and squirrels; and a natural feel to what is otherwise an austere square. To cut these healthy trees down is, I believe, sheer vandalism.

I am very upset that to please a few people who go to a ceremony once or twice a year and abhor the idea of a few fallen twigs and leaves and want to flatten the area are given precedence over one of nature's greatest resources and pleasures – a mature tree.

While it takes but a few minutes to clear up rubbish or leaves it takes a tree many decades to grow into the glorious monument to nature that these trees were. The idea that 'tidying up' an area in memory of a father, son, brother or husband's name is worth killing 100-year-old trees just doesn't wash with me.

The trees did not impinge on the memorial or the flagstones in honour of the dead in any way.

I find it particularly ironic that on the very day (January 28) the council rubbish department gave me and nine other people or groups a reception to acknowledge us as 'environmental champions' these trees were

Make your voice heard

WE WELCOME your comments and letters for publication.

Please send correspondence to: The Editor, One Media/Archant KOS Media, Kenwood House, 1 Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2EL

Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances.

Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this

will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Missed last week's paper and want to know what sparked the debate?

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chopped down by the leisure department.

Please go to www.kentfallen.com and you'll find a wonderful photo of the memorial with the three trees.

Sara Starkey, Ashburnham Road, Tonbridge

No to lease extension

I am responding within the public consultation period to the proposal by BHAL for a "temporary" extension to their lease granted by Bromley Council in order to extend opening hours and allow fare-paying passengers to use Biggin Hill Airport.

I live with my family, under the main approach to the airport. I wish to object to any extension to the airport opening hours.

Already aircraft land there after the times permitted by the lease and there has been an increase in rotary noise late at night due to refuelling aviation emergency services.

Last year we asked BHAL for statistics regarding numbers of flights in and out of the airport since 2009, and operations generally out of their permitted open times, and they have not responded; I believe they have ignored us because they are a private company and not covered by Freedom of Information legislation.

I believe their application to extend and

vary their lease conditions masks a back door device to reach their real aim of paving the way to longer-term scheduled flight operations – not only do I believe the Olympics next year is a red herring simply to test the robustness of the lease conditions – I firmly believe their proposed £3 charge per passenger masks their real intent – to introduce far more profitable scheduled flights – and bring it in under the radar in an attempt to establish their long-term goal of establishing such services in the public, nay even council, conscience as an airport for scheduled flights.

Mrs Alison McKechnie, Orpington

Drinking is no shock

It's hardly surprising that children from affluent (read middle-class) families are also drinking underage.

Something society seems to have forgotten over the last few years is that most children, although superficially rebellious, will emulate what they know. If what they are used to is watching their parents put away a couple of bottles of wine of an evening, then that to them becomes normal behaviour, which they copy with their friends.

It's been well documented for several years

now that middle class professionals are no less likely, and in some cases more likely, to display problem drinking than those living in more deprived circumstances.

So it is odd that we should now act surprised when this problem manifests itself in the children of professional, middle class parents in a place like Tunbridge Wells.

The fact that your story states the alcohol is sometimes bought by the parents just goes to show the blasé attitude towards drink which is now shown at all levels of society, regardless of social class.

This seems to be further evidence that alcohol is a problem that affects society as a whole, regardless of age, class, race or income.

Drinking has become so ingrained in our culture, normalised in the lives of much of the population, that the only way to deal with it is to change the way society as a whole views alcohol. Instead we divide it into sections and explore small parts of a much wider problem, ignoring the big, overarching dominance that drinking now has in Britain.

Michael Ashton, Tunbridge Wells

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This week we want to know, is the Government right to sell off public forests like Bedgebury Pinetum?

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LAST WEEK'S POLL

Have you managed to keep any of your New Year's resolutions?

- Yes and I feel better for it: 20 per cent
- Yes, was easier than I thought: 15 per cent
- Just about, but it is tough: 19 per cent
- No, but still not given up on it yet: 23 per cent
- No, failed miserably within days: 20 per cent

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BIRTHS

BATES

Matthew and Victoria are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Emmelia Holly Elizabeth was born on the 15th January 2011 at the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, at 12:50pm, weighing 7lb 10oz.

CAMPION

Lyndsey and Darren of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Joshua Ian Campion, born on 7th January 2011 at QE/M weighing 8lb 2oz. A brother for Isabel and Phoebe.

COWLEY

Sienna Grace born on 22nd January 2011 weighing 6lb 10oz. Daughter to Gina and Alan.

DALLAS

Lee and Stevie of Sturry are pleased to announce the birth of baby boy Preston James Dallas, born 27th January 2011.

DAVISON

Max Finley born on 21st January 2011, weighing 10lb 2oz. Son to Inez and Nick Davison, brother to Scarlett Laura.

JACKSON

Skye Sophie Jackson born on 17th January 2011 weighing 5lbs 10oz. Beautiful daughter to Charlene and sister to Millie and Riley.

JONES

Jack William Jones born on 4th January 2011 weighing 6lb 3oz. Son to Joanna and Chris Jones of Dartford.

LETHAM

Michelle and Paul of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Allexia Nicole Jet Letham, born on 4th January 2011 at QE/M weighing 6lb 8.5oz. Mummy and daddy's special little angel.

SHAW

Natasha and Andrew of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Lyan George Kai Shaw, born on 17th January 2011 weighing 7lb 14oz. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

SKINNER

Fred and Claire of Herne Bay are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful son, Ethan Frederick Skinner, on 25th January 2011. A new brother for Oliver and Imogen.

STANDEN-HUBBARD

Melanie and Kevin of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Noah Michael Standen-Hubbard, born on 14th January 2011 at QE/M, weighing 6lb 10oz. Welcomed by all the family with all the love in the world.

TOWNSEND

Kasey and Matthew of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Freya Poppy-Scarlet Townsend, born at home on 24th January 2011, weighing 7lb 8oz. A sister for Lilia.

WADE

Henry and Rosemary Wade of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of Zachary Jack Wade, born 20th January 2011. He is looking forward to meeting a whole host of aunts, uncles and grandparents.

DEATHS

CHAPMAN

Joan Florence Chapman died peacefully on January 22nd, 2011, aged 85. Funeral service at Vinters Park Crematorium at 3:30pm on Tuesday 8th February.

DUFF

Passed away at home suddenly on 22 January 2011. Much missed by Ian, Jan and Lois.

GOOCH

Sheila Margaret Gooch, passed away on the 25th January 2011. Funeral Service at Charing Crematorium at 12:40 on the 8th February 2011. No flowers but donations to the Alzheimers

Society, c/o Chittendens of Folkestone, 01303 246879.

SIMPSON

David Thomas Simpson sadly passed away on 21st January 2011, aged 63 years, surrounded by his wife and two children at the QE/M. Funeral service will be held at St Lawrence Church, Ramsgate, at 2pm, then followed on by the interment at Ramsgate Cemetery. Flowers if wished care of H R Palmers.

STRINGER

Anthony (Tony) Stringer on 26th January 2011. Dearly loved husband of Linda and father of Lindsay and Russell. Funeral at Medway Crematorium on Friday 18th February 2011 at 2.40pm. Family flowers only, donations to Ellenor Lions Hospice.

TUCKEY

Mary Tuckey passed away in hospital on the 26th January 2011. Will be sorely missed by her son Jason and all her family and friends. Funeral at Vinters Park Crematorium on 9th February at 11am. No flowers please, donations if wished by cheque to Heart of Kent Hospice Macmillan Nurses Team, c/o Sears, 3 Fountain Lane, Barming, Maidstone.

young people between 18-24 unemployed in Swale – again the second highest in Kent

It is of particular concern to note that the unemployment rate in Davington Ward is 4.7 per cent. The North Preston estate, the largest in the town, does not even have a community hall, so no venue for groups to meet, access training, etc.

I see little or no evidence of any resources being put into Faversham to help people learn new skills or get into work, either by Swale Borough Council or Adult Education.

What are our representatives doing to provide training and encourage job creation for local people who are struggling to find work? Whilst any jobs are welcome, I don't just mean low-paid supermarket jobs.

Unemployment and redundancies are set to soar as a result of the reckless cuts being made by this Tory-led Government.

Swale Borough Council has made seven people redundant and not filled a further 19 posts – so not much hope in getting improved services for the people of Faversham and the surrounding area then?

Ash Rehal, Secretary

Faversham and Swale East Labour Party

Private threat to NHS facilities

No-one denies that aspects of the NHS desperately need reform and Andrew Lansley's health reforms do go some way to addressing some of those problems. One of these is the issue of public health, which becomes the responsibility of local government. It is still unclear how policy (and practice) will be divided up between KCC and the city/metropolitan councils. It is potentially a recipe for chaos!

However the principal tenet – the devolution of the £100 billion budget to GPs, provides a solution to nothing.

How can Mr Lansley believe it is a good idea to give GPs, with no management training, no financial expertise, no procurement skills – the responsibility of managing the local health economy? Surely no distraction from their roles as guardians of our health can be beneficial?

And if GPs choose not to undertake these managerial and logistical responsibilities, they are likely to be sub-contracted to ex-employees of the primary care trusts. So instead of 152 PCTs throughout England, we'll end up with hundreds, maybe even thousands of 'mini' PCTs which will exacerbate inequality and inconsistency.

The phrase "any willing provider" is the true sword of Damocles. This will allow any private organisation to compete with the NHS to provide services to GPs. In many cases these will be wealthy international healthcare organisations or major UK supermarkets – for whom a few years of undercutting will reap dividends. The NHS (funded by the taxpayer) does not have that luxury.

If patients are referred to private firms instead of centres of excellence such as our three acute hospitals, services may become no longer sustainable. There will be an inevitable drop in standards as profit rather than clinical excellence become the main driver. When things go wrong, or if private firms decide services are not profitable enough, the NHS might no longer have the specialists and/or facilities to take over.

There are of course ambitious GPs who are rolling up their sleeves. I only wish they were reaching for their stethoscopes rather than their calculators.

David Shortt, Herne Bay,

Don't sleep while NHS falls apart

Imagine going to your GP in a few years' time. You're in pain and need gall bladder surgery fast. Your GP examines

you, inhales sharply and says: "I'm sorry, but would you mind hanging on until the new financial year? The surgery has run out of money."

This is the new NHS planned by the ConDem government.

The policies revealed in the Coalition's health white paper amount to nothing less than the end of the NHS. The Government's idea is to jump feet first into an American-style market-based health system. So what does that mean?

As most people understand it, the NHS is the organisation that provides their healthcare – it is the hospitals, doctors, nurses, the scanners, the prescription medicines, the ambulance drivers. When any of us receive treatment, we know we are in the hands of one big organisation that we trust.

The Government wants to change all that. Under its plans no hospital, no clinic, no district nursing service or mental health centre will be part of that organisation. They will all be converted into independent "social enterprises" called foundation trusts.

No doctors, nurses or therapists will work for the NHS. They will be made into employees of their particular institution.

Many NHS managers will lose their jobs and their roles will be outsourced. Primary care trusts and strategic health authorities will be abolished. All the unpopular decisions will be made by 'commissioning consortia' and private management consultants.

For the first time since 1948, private companies will have the same status as all these former NHS bodies, opening the door for them to make profits from illness once more. The NHS will be subject to laws on competition, meaning every service will have to be tendered and every bit of the health service will have to fight to survive. The admin involved will waste billions of pounds. There will be a new super-regulator called Monitor, a bit like Ofgem in the privatised utilities, whose job will be to enforce market discipline.

There will be no one organisation called the NHS. There will just be a brand, a blue logo, and a pot of money to buy treatments with. The taxpayer will still be funding health care, but there will be no unified health service.

To achieve this, the Government has to do the biggest NHS reorganisation since 1948. At the centre of the change is a move to so-called 'GP commissioning'. Big groups of GPs, perhaps 80 doctors, will get together to form a consortium which will then employ the same managers who have just been made redundant by Primary Care Trusts.

£80 billion of public money will be in the hands of these ad hoc consortia with no clear accountability. What will happen if your GP's consortium goes over budget? The Government has said it won't be bailed out, so the prospect of turning up at a GP surgery only to be told that you have to wait until the new financial year is very real.

But it gets worse. The Government has told the NHS to save £20 billion by 2014. GPs in their new role will be the ones having to make these cuts. The respect patients have for their doctor will be eroded when they learn that the latter is responsible for the local ward closure. And what if your GP's consortium decides to stop offering certain treatments to save money? Who would you go to if your GP told you they are no longer paying for hernia surgery?

The consequences of the White Paper are frightening, but it is not yet law. It can be stopped, but only if NHS staff and patients get the word out on what the policies mean and how they can be resisted. The NHS is the public's most valued institution – there's no support for the Government's dangerous plans, but there is a risk of the NHS being dismantled while the public is sleeping. NHS Supporters is a campaign you can join to make sure this doesn't happen.

NHS Support Federation, Brighton

Town doesn't need another station

Kent County Council has put in a bid to the Regional Growth Fund in support of Manston Airport. The bid is in three parts:

- Work to the railway line to London to bring the journey time to under one hour.
- Subsidy to an airline to run daily flights to a European hub airport,
- A Parkway station off the new road near Cliffsend.

I fully support the first. I have no problem with the second, if someone will fund it.

I have serious problems with the Parkway Station. The plan is bonkers – the new station will have a journey time of eight minutes to the airport, but Ramsgate Station could easily be rebuilt at a much lower price to allow access in the same time. I suspect a shuttle bus could do it in eight minutes when traffic is clear.

The existing station at Ramsgate could achieve 64 minutes Ramsgate to St Pancras.

The second issue is a station that could be marketed as improving access to the airport. This is a multi-million pound exercise that would deliver only marginal benefits, compared to the current situation. They are trying to justify it by arguing it is necessary to allow the faster journey time to London, but that is a fallacy.

Thanet people are fortunate that 80 per cent can walk to a station. Why would they want to use their cars a drive to a parkway?

Of course, Infratil will offer to throw in £500k. Wouldn't you, in return for a £20m investment in your private, for-profit enterprise? If they put that investment into

improvements at Ramsgate station and a shuttle bus service they would save the taxpayer any further investments.

I believe they should make the line improvements talked about in the paper and invest in Ramsgate station by allowing passengers to exit on the Warre Rec side of the line, where a shuttle bus terminal would operate, and then use a new service road to allow the buses to exit via the swimming pool car park on to Newington Road and then Manston Road. I suggest you drive it and see how close this would come to eight minutes.

Also, if they want to increase car parking at Ramsgate Station they could then use the swimming pool car park.

Last but not least, Network Rail had plans to rebuild Ramsgate Station at a very modest price, in comparison to a new station. It would be modern, comfortable and give access to an airport shuttle bus in the way I suggest and then the existing station building could be converted to a 'business centre' making a contribution to local employment. The taxpayer would save money, the airport would be just as well served, local people would keep their station and it would create new jobs.

Cllr David Green, Ramsgate

Who is helping to retrain jobless?

Recent unemployment statistics show Swale as the second highest borough in Kent in terms of unemployed people at 3,025 – 3.6 per cent of the working population, higher than the UK average of 3.5 per cent and way above the 2.4 per cent for the South East. There are 1,000



National Trust offers trainees vital experience

THE National Trust is offering six-month work placements for unemployed young people at the former Kent home of Winston Churchill.

Since March last year, Chartwell in Westerham, near Sevenoaks, has taken on four trainees, who have become fully immersed in all areas of the estate's work, including gardening, website design and exhibition planning.

And while the scheme will come to an end next month, the National Trust will be taking on new trainees before the end of the spring.

One of those to have benefited is Jonathon Primmer, who is now working with the conservation team as well as researching for a new exhibition at Chartwell.

He said: "I was looking for any relevant employment to get my foot in the door, and I stumbled upon this trainee position.

"It has exceeded all expectations, providing me with training and practical, work-related experience so important to employers.

"I now see it as a vital part of my future employability."

Early last year, the National Trust embarked on the Future Jobs Fund scheme in conjunction with the Department of Work and Pensions, whereby a number of the trust's properties would take on young people aged 18-24 who have been out of work for more than six months.

The Trust hopes the scheme will provide young employees with training and experience to better their chances of getting work.

Senior administrator Susan Rattray said: "We hope young people will see these posts as an opportunity to boost their skills in a unique environment."

Email sue.rattray@nationaltrust.org.uk or visit your local job centre for more information.

Employers urged to support apprentices

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

EMPLOYERS throughout Kent are being encouraged to show their support for the workforce of tomorrow as part of National Apprenticeship Week.

Running from Monday to Friday, the programme aims to highlight the talents and skills young people can bring to an organisation, and also to celebrate the value of apprenticeships.

Applications are also now open for the National Apprenticeship Awards, which are open to all organisations that employ apprentices, as well as to the apprentices themselves.

Rachel McKellar – South East regional director for the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) – said: "I would urge all South East employers and apprentices to enter this year's awards.

"They recognise and reward employers and apprentices, and provide an opportunity to showcase their achievements on a regional and national basis.

"Every year it's breathtaking to see firsthand how these inspirational apprentices are making such a positive impact on their employers and on the local community."

Last year, 20-year-old retail management apprentice Holly Manley, from Dartford, was named National Apprentice of the Year.

The NAS says Holly is a shining example of how apprenticeships provide training to expand career horizons, having been promoted from supervisor to store manager at Superdrug in a matter of months.

She said: "Winning the National Apprentice of the Year 2010 has opened a lot of doors for me. It's amazing to be selected from all the apprentices nationwide, and such a boost to know that all your hard work is being recognised."

For this year's awards the NAS will be listing England's top 100 apprenticeship



VITAL TRAINING: Hairdressing apprentices get expert advice at Canterbury College

employers, as well as giving separate awards for the small, medium, large and macro employers of the year.

Entries close on March 25. Visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk/awards for more information.

Meanwhile, several Kent training providers are holding activities to help promote National Apprenticeship Week.

Canterbury College is hosting an interactive exhibition at Whitefriars in the city centre from Tuesday to Friday, covering a wide variety of courses on offer. These include childcare, accounting, and plumbing.

Student demonstrations will be held, with interest welcome from potential students, schools, parents and businesses.

MidKent College is holding an employer event promoting apprenticeships to local small and medium enterprises, as well as two open evenings for school leavers and those already in employment to discuss how

to get on to an apprenticeship.

Finally, the Medway branch of Connexions – the Medway Youth Trust – will hold an open morning on Wednesday to advise young people on what apprenticeships are available, how much money they can expect to earn and more.

Visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk for more information.

WHAT is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working?

Is it running an apprenticeship scheme to attract young workers? Are its employees being sent on training courses to aid their personal development? Or is it funding a university scholarship to help find the businessmen and women of the future?

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Battle of bands could lead to music career

A COUNTY-wide 'battle of the bands' competition is being held to promote training and potential careers in the recording industry.

The Music Clash '11 contest is being run by Kent County Council and sponsored by Canterbury Christ Church University's Broadstairs campus, with support from Kent Music and the charity Rhythmix.

Winners will spend a day at the university's recording studios, where an expert sound technician will add some professional polish to their work.

They will also receive tips for succeeding in the music industry during a master class led by one of the professionals who teach at the campus.

Campus director Dr Andrew Gower said: "We're delighted to be sponsoring this important event and supporting Kent's young musical talent.

"The university is keen to encourage musical interest and talent at all ages, and

we hope the experience of taking part in events like Music Clash will encourage our county's talented young musicians to take up opportunities for study – whatever their musical taste, style or background."

Young musicians from all genres are invited to upload a short video of an original piece of work to www.musicclash.kent.gov.uk, which will then be rated by the public over the next two months.

The top five entries will also win the chance to perform their songs at a live gig which will be filmed for the internet.

Cllr Roger Gough, Kent County Council's cabinet member for corporate support services, said: "This is a fantastic chance for all young people to get involved in Kent's thriving music scene.

"All participants will get great exposure and the winners will receive a real boost to their careers with insider knowledge from experts at Canterbury Christ Church University's Broadstairs campus."

Creating the light fantastic

DISADVANTAGED youngsters from Canterbury helped to create a 'light graffiti' exhibition, organised by the University for the Creative Arts (UCA).

The LightTAG project offered workshops throughout the South East, where participants were taught how coloured LED lights can create light drawings and animations through an innovative camera technique.

A launch event will be held at London's BFI on Friday, followed by a tour of galleries in the South East.

UCA visual artist Tine Bech said: "LightTAG has been a fantastic experience for everybody involved.

"The young people who participated have created a really visually engaging project.

"One of the project goals is to show youth culture in a positive light and increase the visibility of young people's voices, which I think we've achieved.

"We often forget that universities don't just award degrees, but connect with communities, with businesses and, in this case, with young people."



ILLUMINATING: Camera technique helped youngsters create 'light graffiti' and art

Skills course at Connexions

CONNEXIONS has been awarded the contract to deliver the Prince's Trust Team Programme in Kent.

The 12-week scheme is open to young people aged 16-24, who are currently looking to develop their confidence, learn new skills and get into work.

Courses are now available in Dover, Swale and Maidstone.

Chief executive Sean Kearns said: "The Team Programme has an excellent track record in helping people move into jobs, training or education, and we are delighted

to be working with the Prince's Trust and Mid Kent College on this programme.

"The course offers an exciting challenge to those wanting to develop their skills and gain a nationally-recognised qualification."

The programme consists of a residential week, community project, CV writing and interview skills, work placements, fundraising and other practical experiences.

The course is free and will not affect those receiving jobseekers' allowance.

See www.connexionskentandmedway.co.uk or call 01622 683155 for more information.

Apprenticeship Week 7-11 February 2011



Summary of events in Thanet:

Monday 7th February

- Launch of Training Solutions Facebook site
- College Apprenticeship Graduation event



Tuesday 8th February

- Thanet College recruits 'The Apprentice'

Wednesday 9th February

- Principal Graham Razez - live interview on Academy FM at 11.15am
- Drop-in session about Apprenticeships - College Library 12 midday until 5.00pm

Thursday 10th February

- Training Solutions take over the Community Hub at Westwood Cross 10am-1pm

Friday 11th February

- Training Solutions take over the Community Hub at Westwood Cross 10am-1pm
- Thanet College hosting the Coastal College Consortium for the 'Employer Engagement Task Group'

Saturday 12th February

- Apprenticeship Bus will be at Westwood Cross from 8.30am-6.00pm
- Launch of a range of new Thanet College Apprenticeship programmes



Events run by Training Solutions
At Work - Through Work - For Work
01843 605032 / training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk



MidKent College's dedicated training consultancy provides a professional service that is dedicated to the needs of local companies. Training courses can be delivered in-company or in the first class facilities available at the College.

Subject areas available include:

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- > Commercial & Business
- > Construction Crafts
- > Education
- > Electrical
- > Floristry
- > Health & Safety
- > Health & Social Care
- > Holistics
- > Hospitality
- > ICT
- > Logistics
- > Management
- > Office Skills
- > Plumbing
- > Security

Visit www.midkent.ac.uk/employer-zone
for more information.

01634 402020



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We are seeking a first class Book-Keeper/Account Administrator

with an enthusiastic and committed approach, to work in our Head Office based in Marden, Kent to start as soon as possible

- A good working knowledge of Sage
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work as part of a team and to play a key role in this growing company
- Self motivated and organised
- At least two years' experience in a similar position

The Kindergartens are a family run group of successful and well established nursery schools situated in Central London

A competitive salary and conditions are offered

For further details and a full description of the post please email: nicky.peckham@thekindergartens.co.uk

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

www.thekindergartens.com

THE KINDERGARTENS



Community Researchers

Salary: £8.50 per hour

Do you have excellent people and communication skills; the confidence and ability to work independently; extensive knowledge of the local area and orchard farming community and; a clean driving licence and access to own transportation?

The Institute of Occupational Medicine (IOM) is a major independent centre of scientific excellence in the fields of occupational and environmental health, hygiene and safety. We are looking to recruit 2 individuals to assist with recruitment and liaison with participants in a scientific study of pesticide use in the surrounding areas of Canterbury / Maidstone. The study will include both orchard farmers and residents as part of its investigation.

The successful candidate will receive full training on the study and will be paid £8.50 hourly for time worked. Working hours will be flexible and subject to project needs and negotiation. IOM will cover all travel and expenses associated with the project.

For further information regarding the role please visit our website www.iom-world.org/recruitment

Closing date for applications is **18 February 2011**.
Interviews will be held on **4 March 2011**.



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require a

Part-Time Manager

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Coastal
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Division

The Coastal Services Division of Gardline Environmental Ltd provides a variety of survey and windfarm services and specialist vessels for contracts and charters. These include Windfarm Turbine Transfers, Hydrographic Surveys and Guard Boat duties. Due to the award of some major long-term contracts across the UK, we are seeking persons suitable for the following positions:

SKIPPERS

The ideal candidate must possess previous experience at sea on 10m to 20m vessels, using a variety of propulsion methods. As a minimum, an RYA Powerboat Level 2 Certificate and an ENG-1 medical certificate are required. A VHF, First Aid and sea survival certificates would be an advantage as would experience of training support staff in boat operations. We have several experienced support staff as well as those beginning their careers at sea, so your ability to encourage and guide is important.

The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate their boat handling skills, leadership qualities and problem solving abilities. Your calmness, confidence and initiative will be key to your success as one of our skippers within our team.

ABLE SEAMEN

In this role we are looking for individuals who have commercial and or leisure boat experience in an all-round support role. Your positive attitude and approach to the work and practical learning will be key to your success and progression. You must be someone who can accurately follow instructions and take responsibility for given tasks, working closely with and providing support to the Skipper regarding all aspects of vessel operations.

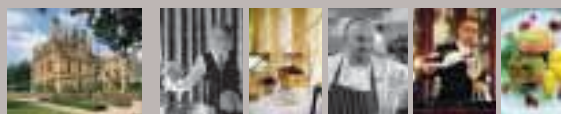
Working for Coastal Services, is physically demanding and will require nationwide travel and periods of time away at sea. We do operate on rotations appropriate to contract, usually 16 days on (including travel) and 14 days off, but for ALL the above roles you will need to be flexible and willing to work outside the core business hours on occasions. Ideally we are looking to recruit people from the localities of our contracts, but this is not essential.

If you are interested in working with us, please send your CV and Cover Letter via e-mail detailing your experience, skills and qualifications along with your availability to Allan Tucker, Project Manager at allan.tucker@gardline.com

Closing date: Thursday 10th February 2011

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Hand Picked Hotels is a collection of 17 luxury country house hotels throughout the United Kingdom and Channel Islands.

HR ADMINISTRATOR

Based Brandshatch Place Hotel | £18k

Responsible for all HR administration for a designated group of properties, your duties will include setting up and updating personnel records in line with audit and data protection requirements, as well as administering the employee benefits system and assisting with recruitment of new staff members.

We are seeking a confident, pro-active and highly organised individual with excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office to deliver a first-class HR admin service.

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Maternity cover | Based Sevenoaks | £17.5k

Working as part of a busy, friendly team, you will provide ledger and accounting support to both our head office and individual hotels, including supervising bought and sales ledgers, cash book reconciliations and assisting with month end procedures. Data reporting on a daily, weekly and monthly basis will also form part of your role.

You will have strong numeric skills, good Excel knowledge and demonstrate excellent attention to detail. Previous knowledge of Opera and Sage is desirable.

Please apply with CV and covering letter with current salary details to: Keely Dobinson at kdobinson@handpicked.co.uk

Closing date: 11th February 2011.

www.handpicked.co.uk



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The future of local media

Be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent

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KOS Media look for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market leading portfolio including newspapers, magazines and digital sales. We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response. Looking after and growing an existing customer base along with finding new business will form the basis of the job role. You will need to be a self motivated individual with sales experience, good communicator, tenacious and hard working to succeed in this environment.

Telephone Sales Executives x2 Maternity Cover fixed term 12 months Full Time permanent

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply. You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response. Media experience is not essential as full training will be given.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

Ynez Coton, Commercial Director,
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA
Apple Barn, Hythe Rd, Smeeth, Ashford Kent. TN25 6SS
Or email ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk

Sales Manager

The Sales Manager will play a lead role in developing new business and maintaining existing relationships. The ideal candidate should be comfortable with all stages of client relationship management and should be proficient at sourcing leads, securing new revenue, delivering presentations, writing proposals, negotiating and closing. The person we are seeking will be an energetic and enthusiastic individual with excellent sales skills, a self starter; highly motivated and will have excellent verbal and written communication ability. You will need to demonstrate a proven sales track record, preferably from within media, will have a good understanding of the benefits of printed, online and live media and knowledge of the Kent marketplace would be useful.

Media Sales Executives Tunbridge Wells

KOS Media look for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market leading portfolio including newspapers, magazines and digital sales. We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response. Looking after and growing an existing customer base along with finding new business will form the basis of the job role. You will need to be a self motivated individual with sales experience, good communicator, tenacious and hard working to succeed in this environment.

Telephone Sales Executives x2 Ashford

You will play the key role in selling advertising across our market leading portfolio of newspapers, websites and mobile products. Candidates may possess a track record in telephone sales, combining excellent communication skills, tenacity and the ability to build relationships. Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured and positive manner. Your might also be looking to enter media as a career within sale and this would be an excellent starting point.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

Christine Davidson, Commercial Director
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road,
Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS
Or by email christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk

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Operations Manager (Part Time)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE COMMUNITY

We are looking to recruit a part time Operations Manager for our office based in Ashford, Kent.

Ashford Mediation Service, a registered charity, plays a vital role in the community helping people to resolve conflict situations. We are looking for an individual who will be able to maintain a high standard of service delivery and is able to identify and maximise commercial opportunities for sustainable business growth.

Working knowledge of mediation is preferred but not essential. You will have management, marketing and business development skills and experience of managing and motivating volunteers.

Salary for the post is pro rata £28,860 p.a. You will be required to work 24 hours per week. Some evening work may be required. Driving license is essential. This post is subject to a Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure Check.

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity please send your CV with a covering letter to: PO Box 482, Ashford, Kent. TN23 9PY

Closing date is Friday 18th February 2011



TRADE SALES MANAGER

To be responsible for the running of our busy Trade Sales Office including processing orders, preparation of orders for production, collating deliveries, customer liaison and credit control. Good keyboard skills, a mature outlook to problem solving and ability to work on own initiative under pressure required.

Salary is negotiable depending on experience.

Closing date – 18th February 2011.

Please apply in writing with a CV to
Ron Twyman,
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140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP
or by e-mail to ron@piperwindows.co.uk.



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**THANET
COLLEGE**

“Raising Aspirations, Developing Skills, Delivering Quality”

Do you have what it takes to be a College Governor?

Thanet College continues to build on the success and achievement of its students in a wide range of vocational courses, specialising in areas such as art and design, music, media and performance, engineering and technology, hospitality, care and business.

College Governors are members of the wide community served by the College who volunteer their senior level experience and skills for public benefit. They are responsible for the educational character and mission of the College, for the proper use of its resources and for safeguarding its assets. Governors are committed to the value of lifelong learning, the promotion of equal opportunities and maintaining standards.

We have a vacancy for a Governor serving on our Governing Body and Audit Committee. The successful applicant should have broad managerial experience and knowledge of organisations at a senior level and be conversant with financial procedures and/or audit processes.

Please apply in writing to:

Nicky Stevenson
Deputy Clerk
Thanet College
Ramsgate Road
Broadstairs
Kent CT10 1PN

The closing date for applicants is Monday 14th February 2011.

Please note: Previous applicants need not apply

Thanet College is committed to Equal Opportunities.

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

Additional Support Tutor

The college is looking to recruit an Additional Support Tutor to be responsible for the support service for learners with Autistic Spectrum Condition and Language and Communication needs.

Salary Scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week, all year

Closing date: 9 February 2011

Interview date: 28 February 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website
www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'.

Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

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Salary £17.5k
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www.handpicked.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Hand Picked Hotels
kdobinson@handpicked.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Book-Keeper/Account Administrator
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Salary Competitive salary
To apply/more information:
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Book-Keeper/Account Administrator
Marden
Salary Competitive salary
To apply/more information:
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Administration, Secretarial, PA

Data and Personalisation Controller
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
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Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trade Sales Manager
Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
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Quoting Job Ref: kos

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To apply/more information:
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kentteam@tttp.co.uk
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Teachers
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Salary Negotiable
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more information and to register with us, please call us on:0845 450 1496 or email: kentteam@tttp.co.uk
To apply/more information:
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kentteam@tttp.co.uk
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Foster Carers
All kent
Salary £325 per week
To apply/more information:
Family Matters Fostering Ltd
morag@fml.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

House Guidance & Care Manager
Folkestone
Salary £19,870 pa
To apply/more information:
Folkestone Academy
sally.taylor@folkestoneacademy.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Sales Executive
Rochester
Salary £30K OTE
To apply/more information:
Inchoak Office Interiors
mhawkesworth@inchoak.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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Quoting Job Ref: REC500

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Community Carers
Herne Bay
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Enterprising Opportunities
M.Hawkes@enterprisingopps.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Education, Teacher, School

Science Technician
The Folkestone School for Girls
Salary Kent Pay Scheme Band 3 (£14099-£15984) FTE 0.684
To apply/more information:
Folkestone School For Girls
sdunster@folkestonegirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KoS

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kentteam@tttp.co.uk
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Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Experienced Timber Sales/Sales Person
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To apply/more information:
Orlestone Oak Ltd
glenn@orlestoneoak.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Estate Agency, Property

Lettings Administrator
Sittingbourne
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Family Homes
sunil.popat@virgin.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Health & Beauty

Receptionist / Customer Service
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Able Seamen
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Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Gardline Environmental Ltd
Calina.wood@gardline.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

HR, Recruitment

HR Administrator
Brandshatch
Salary £18k
Hand Picked Hotels is a collection of 17 luxury country house hotels throughout the United Kingdom and Channel Islands. Based Brandshatch Place Hotel | £18kResponsible for all HR administration for a designated group of properties, your duties will include setting up and updating personnel records in line with auditand data protection requirements, aswell as administering the employee benefits system and assisting with recruitment of new staff members. We are seeking a confident, pro-active and highly organised individual with excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office to deliver a first-class HR admin service. Please apply with CV and covering letter with current salary details to:Keely Dobinson at kdobinson@handpicked.co.uk Closing date: 11th February 2011.
www.handpicked.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Hand Picked Hotels
kdobinson@handpicked.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

Refuse Loader
Rochester
Salary £5.93ph
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Data and Personalisation Controller
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Enclosing Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary £16,000-£30,000pa

To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

Accounts Assistant
Sevenoaks
Salary £17.5k
To apply/more information:
Hand Picked Hotels
kdobinson@handpicked.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Management, Senior Positions

Production Manager (Mailing)
Tunbridge wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Part-Time Manager
Tunbridge Wells
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
S.Simmonds & Son Ltd
marion@simmonds-ltd.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

College Governor
Thanet
Salary Volunteer
"Raising Aspirations, Developing Skills, Delivering Quality" Do you have what it takes to be a College Governor?Thanet College continues to build on the success and achievement of its students in a wide range of vocational courses, specialising in areas such as art and design, music, media and performance, engineering and technology, hospitality, care and business. College Governors are members of the wide community served by the College who volunteer their senior level experience and skills for public benefit. They are responsible for the educational character and mission of the College, for the proper use of its resources and for safeguarding its assets. Governors are committed to the value of lifelong learning, the promotion of equal opportunities and maintaining standards. We have a vacancy for a Governor serving on our Governing Body and Audit Committee. The successful applicant should have broad managerial experience and knowledge of organisations at a senior level and be conversant with financial procedures and/or audit processes.Please apply in writing to: Nicky Stevenson Deputy ClerkThanet College Ramsgate Road Broadstairs Kent CT10 1PN The closing date for applicants is Monday 14th February 2011.Please note: Previous applicants need not applyThanet College is committed to Equal Opportunities.
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Deputy Manager
New Romney
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Sandbanks Care Home
adam@belmontsandbanks.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trade Sales Manager
Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

House Guidance & Care Manager
Folkestone
Salary £19,870 pa
To apply/more information:
Folkestone Academy
sally.taylor@folkestoneacademy.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Marketing, Advertising

Sales Co-ordinator
Hythe
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
H V Wooding Ltd
jolsen@hvwooding.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Motor Trade, Driver

Senior Painter
Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
AB Crush Panelcraft
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Vehicle Technician / Mechanic
Chatham
Salary negotiable
To apply/more information:
Hazel Motors
applications@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Not for profit, Charities

CARERS
Northfleet
Salary £8.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
Alzheimers & Dementia Support
adminadss@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

College Governor
Thanet
Salary Volunteer
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Flexi Day Care Assistants
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Assistant Manager
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

CARERS
Northfleet
Salary £8.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
Alzheimers & Dementia Support
adminadss@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Part Time Medical Receptionist
Sevenoaks
Salary negotiable
To apply/more information:
Town Medical Centre
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Deputy Manager
New Romney
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Sandbanks Care Home
adam@belmontsandbanks.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Community Carers
Herne Bay
Salary Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Enterprising Opportunities
M.Hawkes@enterprisingopps.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Additional Support Tutor
Broadstairs
Salary £25,589 - £30,205
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: AST001

Massage Therapist
Canterbury
Salary 9-18 k per annum + bonuses
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: masthe 001

Marketing, Sales and Communication
Canterbury
Salary 14k (starting salary)
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02

Psychological Therapist
Ashford PTP
Salary £21,519 - £27,849 pro rata
Psychological Therapist - Fixed Term for 6 months£21,519 - £27,849 pro rata - 20.81 hours per weekEssential Car User Allowance up to £1,239Based Ashford PTP KCA (UK) Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. We offer a strong departmental framework with regular clinical supervision, line management, monthly team meetings and effective administration, along with opportunities for further training and career development. The Ashford PTP team requires a psychological therapist to work in close collaboration with colleagues in a stepped care service. You will work in surgeries based in the local area and have a commitment to improving access to psychological therapies for people with depression and anxiety. A strong interest in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) would be an advantage. The team also delivers EMDR, Brief Dynamic Interpersonal Therapy for Depression (DIT), Couple Therapy for Depression (CDT) and eligibility and interest in these areas and Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Depression (IPT) will also be useful. The base is located in the Live It Well Centre, a multi-agency partnership taking referrals from both primary and secondary care. For an informal discussion about the post please contact Liz Hamlin, Clinical Manager IAPT on 01233 639383. Applications and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk. You can also email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote ref: 738.Closing date: 15 February 2011. Interview date: TBCKA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. Charity no: 292824.
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
admin@kca.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 738

Refuse Loader
Rochester
Salary £5.93ph
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Refuse Loader
Rochester
Salary £5.93ph
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Print, Packaging, Distribution

Inkjet Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Hand workers
Herne Bay
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Production Manager (Mailing)
Tunbridge wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Data and Personalisation Controller
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Enclosing Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary £16,000-£30,000pa
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.aldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Public Relations, Media, Journalism

Media Sales Executives Field Based
Tunbridge Wells & west Kent
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT) KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos003

Media Sales Executives Field Based
Medway
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT) KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos003

Community Carers
Herne Bay
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Enterprising Opportunities
M.Hawkes@enterprisingopps.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Public Sector, Social Services

Refuse Loader
Rochester
Salary £5.93ph
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Box Office Supervisor
Margate
Salary £17,000 - £18,500 PA
To apply/more information:
Theatre Royal Margate
admin@theatreroyalalmargate.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Executive
Rochester
Salary £30K OTE
To apply/more information:
Inchoak Office Interiors
mhawkesworth@inchoak.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Experienced Timber Sales/Sales Person
Ashford
Salary Wage negotiable
To apply/more information:
Orlestone Oak Ltd
glenn@orlestoneoak.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Co-ordinator
Hythe

Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
H V Wooding Ltd
jolsen@hvwooding.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Telesales
Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Theme Events
sjsainsbury@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: REC500

Media Sales Executives Field Based
Tunbridge Wells & west Kent
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT) KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos003

Media Sales Executives Field Based
Medway
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT) KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos003

Part-Time Manager
Tunbridge Wells
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
S.Simmonds & Son Ltd
marion@simmonds-ltd.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trade Sales Manager
Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Class 2 LGV Moffett Driver
Maidstone
Salary £9 - £10 Per Hour
LGV C / HGV 1 Moffett Drivers required for on-going temporary work. All applicants must hold a current Moffett certificate as well as a digital tachograph card. Working Monday to Friday (days) up to 45 hours per week. PAYE or Limited Company Drivers welcome. Due to insurance, applicants must be at least 25 years old and have no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRS or DDS). For further details please call Alex on 01622 664999.
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: AH0001

Able Seamen
Kent
Salary Negotiable
We are looking for individuals who have commercial and/or leisure boat experience in an all-round support role. Your positive attitude and approach to the work and practical learning will be key to your success and progression. You must be someone who can accurately follow instructions and take responsibility for given tasks, working closely with and providing support to the Skipper regarding all aspects of vessel operation. Working for Coastal Services, is physically demanding and will require nationwide travel and periods of time away at sea. We do operate on rotations appropriate to contract, usually 16 days on (including travel) and 14days off, but for ALL the above roles you will need to be flexible and willing to work outside the core business hours on occasions. Ideally we are looking to recruit people from the localities of our contracts, but this is not essential.
To apply/more information:
Gardline Environmental Ltd
Calina.wood@gardline.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP
ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES &
CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **St Julians Club, St Julian Road, Sevenoaks**

Applicant: **Mr Thomas Morgan**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 1st Floor, Invicta House,
 Maidstone, ME14 1XX



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Unipart Yutaka Systems Ltd,
Unipart Yachiyo Technology Ltd
and Unipart Yanagawa Engineering Ltd
sections of the UGC Joint Venture Pension Scheme

Notice is given, pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925 that the sections of the **UGC Joint Venture Pension Scheme** noted above are being wound up. The Trustee of the Scheme is anxious to trace all former members of these listed sections and their beneficiaries who are, or think they may be, entitled to benefits under the Scheme. Any person who has, or may have, any claim, entitlement or interest in the Scheme is required to provide written particulars of any such claim, entitlement or interest to the Trustee of the **UGC Joint Venture Pension Scheme** c/o Aon Hewitt Associates Limited, Colmore Gate, 2 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2QD prior to 30 April 2011. After this date, the Trustee will distribute the assets of the listed sections, having regard only to claims, entitlements and interests of which they have prior written notice and will not be liable in respect of any person whose claims have not been notified to them in writing.

Issued on Behalf of the Trustee of the **UGC Joint Venture Pension Scheme**

27 January 2010

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 10/03584/FUL | Swaylands Penshurst Road, Bidborough
- Alterations and conversion of existing garage into Estate Manager's office (LB) |
| 11/00152/HOUSE | 3 Clockhouse Mews Swaylands, Bidborough
- Single storey extension and internal alterations (LB) |
| 11/00161/LBC | 3 Clockhouse Mews Swaylands, Bidborough
- Listed Building Consent: Single storey extension and internal alterations to change hall layout and alter existing toilet to incorporate a shower (LB) |
| 11/00096/HOUSE | Langton Villa Langton Road, Broadwater
- Demolition of existing single storey garage and part demolition of existing utility room and workshop. Construction of new single storey extension, two storey extension and garage. Update aesthetics of building, improve windows and landscaping (CA) (LB) |
| 11/00130/HOUSE | 8 Broadwater Down Royal Tunbridge Wells, Broadwater
- Two storey rear extension and conversion of existing garage and former stables into living accommodation (CA) |
| 11/00142/LBC | Burgess Hill Farm Pembury Road, Capel
- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of a non-listed garage within the curtilage of a listed building (LB) |
| 11/00005/HOUSE | The Pest House Frythe Walk, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Construction of 2-storey extension and repairs (amendment to planning permission TW/09/03157) (LB) |
| 11/00010/LBC | The Pest House Frythe Walk, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent - Construction of 2-storey extension and re-tiling of roof using existing tiles and incorporating thermal roof insulation (amendment to Listed Building Consent TW/09/03154) (LB) |
| 11/00045/HOUSE | 6 Waterloo Place Waterloo Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Internal alterations to bathroom and kitchen, structural repairs to cellar and provision of new window and door to kitchen (LB) (CA) |
| 11/00046/LBC | 6 Waterloo Place Waterloo Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations to bathroom and kitchen, structural repairs to cellar and provision of new window and door to kitchen (LB) |
| 11/00193/HOUSE | The Stables Biddenden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Front porch extension (LB) (CA) |
| 11/00082/HOUSE | 9 Molyneux Park Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Removal of single storey side and rear extensions and construction of a two storey side and rear extension and conservatory. Refurbishment/replacement of all windows. Removal of pine tree (T3) in rear garden. Provision of suspended concrete slab to provide off street parking (CA) |
| 11/00187/HOUSE | Beechurst Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst
- Proposed two storey and single storey rear extensions. Demolition of existing chimney, outbuilding and boiler room. Internal alterations (LB) |
| 11/00190/LBC | Beechurst Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Proposed two storey and single storey rear extensions. Demolition of existing chimney, outbuilding and boiler room. Internal alterations (LB) |
| 11/00127/LBC | 2 Coggers Cottages The Broadway, Lamberhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Flood protection measures (LB) |
| 11/00179/LBC | Longbrooks Farm Cottages Knowle Road, Paddock Wood
- Listed Building Consent - Minor internal alteration, re-establishment of front door and replacement windows (LB) |
| 11/00176/LBC | Oak Cottage Church Road, Southborough North
- Listed Building Consent: Installation of new gas boiler and external flue (LB) |
| 11/00085/HOUSE | Bonds Bullingstone Lane, Speldhurst
- Construction of in ground open air swimming pool, hard paved terrace and suspended hardwood terrace, new access steps, solar panels to heat water to swimming pool, installation of main access gates to driveway (LB) |
| 11/00175/HOUSE | Stone Cross Ashurst Road, Speldhurst
- Erection of lean-to greenhouse to south west of garage block (LB) (PROW) |
| 11/00177/LBC | Stone Cross Ashurst Road, Speldhurst
- Listed Building Consent - Erection of lean-to greenhouse to south west of garage block (LB) |

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
 Head of Planning Services
 Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 05 February 2011



Highways – District of Sevenoaks

HEVER ROAD, EDENBRIDGE - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Hever Road, Edenbridge from Philipines Close to outside Delaware Cottages.

The Order will become effective on 21st February 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 26th February and last 3 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: New House Farm Road, Lydens Lane, B2026 Hartfield Road and B2026 Mill Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new electricity supply.

STATION ROAD, SHOREHAM - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Station Road, Shoreham 5m from the railway bridge.

The Order will become effective on 21st February 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Church Street, Shoreham, Filston Lane, Shoreham, Twitton Lane, Otford, Pilgrims Way West, Otford, Station Road, Otford and Shoreham Road, Otford.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of 15m of service cable.

Highways – District of Shepway

RECTORY LANE, BROOKLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to carry out tree-cutting and aerial cabling, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rectory Lane, Brookland, on or after 9 February 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Oldhouse Lane and King Street.

The alternative route is via Oldhouse Lane, Carter Lane and King Street.

The road will be closed between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm each day and re-opened outside these hours.

VARIOUS ROADS, ROMNEY MARSH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of bridge inspections, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Romney Marsh, on or after 14 February 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below. Each road will be closed for 1 day, on or after the date shown, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

Wenham's Lane, Old Romney will be closed at Yoakes Bridge on 14 February 2011.

The alternative route is via Eighteen Acre Lane, A259 Rhee Wall, A2070, Iychurch Road and Wenham's Lane.

Gammons Farm Lane, Newchurch will be closed at Blackmanstone Bridge on 15 February.

The alternative route is via the road linking St Mary's Road with Newchurch and the road linking Newchurch with Lower Wall Road.

The **un-named road between Turnagate Cottage and Ashford Road** will be closed at Star Inn Bridge on 16 February.

The alternative route is via School Road and St Mary's Road.

Highways – District of Swale

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 – SECTION 116 STOPPING UP OF LAND ADJACENT TO BYSSING WOOD ROAD AND WESTERN LINK (B2045), FAVERSHAM

I AM GIVING NOTICE THAT the Kent County Council propose to make an application to the Magistrates sitting at Sittingbourne Magistrates Court on 7 March 2011 at 11.30am for an Order under Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 to extinguish highway rights on the grounds that they are unnecessary on land adjacent to Byssing Wood Road and Western Link (B2045), Faversham as shown in red on the plan on deposit.

A copy of this notice and the plan referred to are on deposit, and can be seen during normal office hours, at the main reception of Kent Highway Services at Sessions, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.

If you require further information or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Network Performance of Kent Highway Services in writing at the address given below, or by telephone on 08458 247 800 (24 hour contact centre).

Highways – Borough of Tonbridge and Malling

(BELL LANE, DITTON) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bell Lane, Ditton on or after Monday 21st February 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Oak Drive, Maple Close, Laburnum Drive, New Hythe Lane, A20 London Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to cleanse gullies, pipe work and empty soakaways. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Sara Fletcher on 08458 247 800.

(NEW HYTHE LANE & KINGFISHER ROAD, LARKFIELD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on New Hythe Lane from north side of Fire Station access to a point approximately 50m north of the pedestrian crossing on or after Sunday 27th February 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed. Access to Kingfisher Road will be available via Lunsford Lane only.

The alternative route is via A20 London Road, Lunsford Lane, Leybourne Way, New Hythe Lane.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Keith Jacobs on 08458 247 800.

(PADDLESWORTH ROAD, SNODLAND) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Paddlesworth Road from Paddlesworth Farm to St Benedict Road on or after Tuesday 22nd February 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Stangate Road, Snodland Road, St Benedict Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to cleanse gullies and pipe work. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Sara Fletcher on 08458 247 800.

(PHILPOT'S LANE, HILDENBOROUGH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Philpot's Lane, Hildenborough on or after Monday 21st February 2011 for a period of up to 5 working days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for westbound traffic is via Watt's Cross Road, B245 London Road, Morley's Road, Scabharbour Road, Scabharbour Lane and for eastbound traffic via Coppings Road, Compasses Road, B2027 Penshurst Road, High Street, Hildenborough Road, Rings Hill.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

(PLAXDALE GREEN ROAD, STANSTED) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Plaxdale Green Road from the junction of Labour In Vain Road for 180 metres northwards on or after Monday 21st February 2011 for a period of up to 19 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Labour In Vain Road, Tumblefield Road, Plaxdale Green Road.

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to install new pipe work. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is David Winterburn on 01634 276362.

(SNODLAND ROAD, BIRLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Snodland Road, Birling from Langold House eastwards for 50 metres on or after Monday 21st February 2011 for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Stangate Road, Bull Road, Birling Road, Leybourne By-Pass, Castle Way, Malling Road, Hollow Lane.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to replace a culvert to prevent flooding. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Sara Fletcher on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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by

MATT JOY

Chevrolet Orlando

YOU can't hide the fact that you will have to trade in that entertaining sports car or hot hatch of yours one day, for something a little more sensible.

Squeezing a child seat into the back of a Porsche 911 is deeply inconsiderate, though the thought of owning an MPV might give you sleepless nights.

But car manufacturers are perceptive in keeping up with our needs and wants, and Chevrolet has answered the above problem with the Orlando.

The rest of the Chevrolet range is a familiar sight in the UK now, and the quality of the product has been improving healthily with each new car. That bodes well for the Orlando (from £16,395), which not only has to cope with the quality of the opposition, but also the hard life that kids, dogs and life in general will throw at it.

It looks something of a cross between an SUV and a people carrier. The combination of big windows and an SUV-like height offers an excellent driving position.

Pushing buttons is no chore either, partly because the equipment level is good regardless of which model you choose but also because the cabin quality is the best yet to come from Chevrolet.

The design itself is smart, with a deliberate deep centre panel dividing the space

between the two front seat occupants. Higher spec models have tasteful piano-black trim and leather on the steering wheel, all of which help to push up the classy feel.

Of greater importance to a buyer in this segment however is space, and the Orlando is certainly not short of it.

Three rows of seats mean this is a seven-seater with ease, and even with the third row in place there is a respectable 89 litres of boot space on offer.

Drop to five seats and this goes up to a generous 727 litres, and a giant 1,487 with two rows folded.

Apart from space, equipment and good value the Orlando has other talents. For a start, the 2.0-litre diesel is exactly what you would expect from a good quality, modern unit. There is power easily accessible through much of the rev range, and the gearchange on the standard six-speed unit is slick.

But even more surprising than that is the way the Orlando responds to your inputs. The steering isn't mushy or vague, and the suspension being slightly firmer than you might expect means it won't loll around in corners either.

It has not become a hot hatch and it will still swallow bumps without upsetting everyone on board, but the fact that it will do as it is told rather than vaguely reinterpret your actions is a rare commodity in MPV-land.

It makes a difference, and difference is what this Orlando offers. There is a huge choice of seven-seaters out there for a range of budgets, but not every driver will be happy with a soulless box. Thankfully for those of you with a little more personality and a keen eye for a bargain, the Orlando has arrived.



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“ THE TOPGEAR MAGAZINE
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 IS A ...
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 IT'S THE
PEOPLE'S
CHAMPION.
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TOPGEAR MAGAZINE DECEMBER 2010

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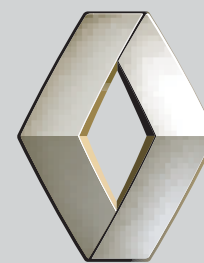
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2007 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback	Was £6,995 NOW £5,995
2007 57 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback	Was £6,995 NOW £5,995
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2010 10 RENAULT Twingo 1.2 Extreme, 3 Doors, Air Conditioning, ABS with EBD	Was £8,495 NOW £7,495
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2008 58 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression, 5 Doors, ABS with EBD, Air Conditioning	Was £8,500 NOW £8,195
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2010 10 RENAULT Grand Modus 1.2 Turbo 100hp Dynamique, 5 Door, ABS with EBD, Air Conditioning	Was £9,995 NOW £9,495
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



Polo price cut to carry on 2010 sales drive

VOLKSWAGEN will energise the supermini sector for the next two months with top offers on its award-winning Polo, to follow up on a successful 2010.

Until March 31, all versions of the 2010 European Car of the Year – apart from GTI hot hatch and BlueMotion eco warrior models – are available to private buyers with £500 off – starting with the entry-level Polo S 1.2-litre three-door at £9,495.

It also means that PCP (personal contract purchase) deals with Volkswagen Finance start at just £99 per month, including up to three years' free servicing.

The latest and fifth generation Polo was launched in October 2009 and has also been voted World Car of the Year 2010.

The car's growing reputation helped the Polo to its best-selling year in the UK since 2003.

Cut-price high-spec new Lancer

MITSUBISHI has launched a new high-value special edition Lancer model, the petrol-engine 1.5 Juro (£14,749).

Based on the current mid-range Lancer 1.5 GS2, it gains black leather upholstery and a Kenwood integrated sat nav system, which includes a reversing camera as standard.

It also brings Bluetooth connectivity, i-Pod connection, 16-inch



alloys, climate control, leather steering wheel with audio controls, electric windows, powered and heated door mirrors, and metallic paint with colour-keyed rear spoiler.

On the safety front it also comes with front, side, curtain and knee airbags and a Euro NCAP five-star safety rating.

Extending the eco range at Vauxhall

VAUXHALL has announced a 'first' by offering eco models across its entire five-strong van range.

Carrying the brand's Ecoflex label, the line-up now includes two new Luton-built Vivaro Ecoflex panel van 2.0-litre diesels, at 90PS (88bhp) and 115PS (113bhp) both with low CO2 outputs for their sector of just 185g/km, despite having payloads of up to 1,254kg.

The duo complement the recently-launched Corsavan Ecoflex 1.3CDTi Start/Stop which emits a miserly 105g/km CO2.

At the other extreme in bulk and offering best-in-class CO2 output of 202g/km, is the 3.3 tonne Movano Ecoflex, while Astravan and Combo Ecoflex models complete the Vauxhall range.

Vauxhall Commercial Vehicles' brand manager Steve Bryant said: "Green credentials are becoming a higher priority for customers looking to reduce the carbon footprint of their vehicles."



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vehicles shown feature metallic paint at no extra cost. Spark, Aveo, Astra, Cruze, Captiva all have 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, implies whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Channel for a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 mile limitation. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. *Savings shown are against recommended retail price at time of publication. Cars may be recorded and monitored for training purposes. Prices correct at time of press.

Official Government Environment Data: Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.4 LT 5dr: Urban - 35.8 (7.9), Extra-urban - 60.1 (4.7), Combined - 47.9 (5.9). CO2 emissions 140g/km. Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 5-seat: Urban - 32.1 (8.8), Extra-urban - 45.6 (6.2), Combined - 39.2 (7.2). CO2 emissions 191g/km. Cruze 1.6 S 4dr: Urban - 31.4 (9.0), Extra-urban - 51.4 (5.5), Combined - 41.5 (6.8). CO2 emissions 159g/km. Spark 1.2 LT 5dr: Urban - 42.8 (6.6), Extra-urban - 67.3 (4.2), Combined - 55.4 (5.1). CO2 emissions 119g/km.

DrivingReview

by
STEVE LOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Kia Sportage

CHANGE is a constant theme at Kia and in the motor market generally nowadays.

Five years ago, like many people, I might have said there is nothing more frustrating than something that looks like a four-wheel drive motor, but has just two wheels under power.

It conjures memories of that old fraud, the Matra Rancho of the 70s/80s – it should have been dubbed the Macho – created to capitalise on the buzz from the original Range Rover.

'Funky chunky'

Recently though, carmakers have found success with economical front-wheel drive designs that have what I call the 'funky chunky' 4x4 look.

A convenient label like 'crossover' has helped too, making the Nissan Qashqai and Peugeot 3008 big sellers in particular.

And so we come to the Kia Sportage, launched with a fanfare last year in arresting full spec 4x4 glory, but now available in big-

selling front-wheel drive only versions too.

Not only does it exhibit how the market has changed, but also how Kia's image has been transformed in just a few years.

The Korean brand's previous two generations of Sportage were tough and worthy and offered tremendous value, the Mk II being offered latterly with the seven-year/100,000-mile warranty now standard on all Kias.

But its replacement is a Kia you can buy because you simply like it, without even considering that warranty and keen pricing from £17,015.

It is no coincidence that it is also the first

Kia penned completely by former Audi design guru and TT creator Peter Shreyer.

He joined Kia four years ago, but new cars aren't sketched and then made overnight so Shreyer's influence was diluted until the arrival of the Sportage, which could prove to be as pivotal – at least, for now – in changing Kia's image as was the first TT for Audi.

I refuse to label it a crossover though, because the selling pitch there is how such cars straddle the family hatchback, medium MPV and compact SUV/4x4 sectors; the new Sportage is bigger and more striking and lacks the seating/cabin versatility of

top crossovers like the Qashqai and the Skoda Yeti.

The rear seats, for instance, do not fold absolutely flat though the cargo space – with seats upright or flat – is good. It will also seat three across the back with good elbow, leg and headroom.

However, despite a big and tall body the Sportage feels nimble and well-sorted and can be pushed hard with just a bit of wallow on bends.

But if you think you need the big 2.0-litre petrol (161bhp) and diesel (134bhp) engines to wring the best out of it, think again.

A Kia to buy for its style, not its value



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Tomorrow
Toyota**



I would advance the case of the entry level 133bhp 1.6 direct-injection EcoDynamics petrol model tested here. It is lively but smooth and comes with a crisp six-speed gearbox and an automatic stop/start system for urban use, both enabling it to average well over 40mpg.

You will pay more than £1,500 extra for its 114bhp 1.7 diesel equivalent and need to

drive many miles before you claw back that cash through an average fuel consumption only 10mpg better.

And the annual road tax bill for the diesel is just £15 less.

Even at Sportage 1 spec level as tested here, the car comes laden with features including a USB/iPod connection, and the interior is as sharply styled as the exterior, though the

plastics quality lets the side down in places.

I would trade up as far as you can afford, because the Sportage looks stunning with all the kit on; those wheel arches are designed for big 18-inch alloys and why not have the full leather treatment plus 4x4 too (from £21,255)? For this is a Kia to be proud of – buy it for itself, as much as the pricing and warranty.

DrivingPortfolio

KIA SPORTAGE 1.6GDi ECODYNAMICS £17,015

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★★★
Road tax	£125/year
Best rival	Nissan Qashqai

TheVerdict



DON'T LIKE:

the lack of rear seats that fold properly flat



NOT SURE:

everyone will realise how much this car shows that Kia has come of age



REALLY LIKE:

the style, vitality and promise of even greater things to come from Kia

KENT DEALERS

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The Trade and Upgrade Programme enables eligible customers to obtain a minimum part exchange value for a qualifying vehicle when purchasing a new Hyundai at a participating authorised UK Hyundai dealer by 31st March 2011. The £3,000 allowance offer is for the purchase of a new Hyundai i30, the £2,000 allowance offer is for the purchase of a new Hyundai i20 and the £1,700 allowance offer is for the purchase of a new Hyundai i10, excluding i10 Classic that qualifies for a £1,500 allowance. The scheme is subject to the terms and conditions of the programme – see www.hyundai.co.uk/tradeupgrade or ask your local dealer. Offers are subject to availability and may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. Warranty terms and exclusions apply – see www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5YearWarranty/ or ask your local dealer.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO₂ Emissions 225 - 110 g/km.

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2010(10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(60) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles.....	£9,995
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2010(10) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 500 miles.....	£7,995
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2009(59) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1100 miles.....	£6,495

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2007(57) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles.....	£9,995
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2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles.....	£6,995

FIESTA

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FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2010(59) FORD FOCUS TITANIUM SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£12,995
2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2008(58) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(57) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 19000 miles.....	£6,995
2005(55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(57) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£5,995
2005(05) FORD FOCUS ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 13000 miles.....	£4,495
2003(03) FORD FOCUS LX SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 39000 miles.....	£3,995

FOCUS ESTATES

2007(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles.....	£6,495
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RENAULT SCENIC

2009(59) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£16,995
2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£8,995
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2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles.....	£7,995
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RENAULT

2007(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GOLD, 12000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
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2010(60) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles.....	£9,995
2008(58) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles.....	£9,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles.....	£8,995
2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles.....	£7,995
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2005(05) RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(05) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles.....	£3,995

CHEVROLET

2008(08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£6,995
2009(59) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles.....	£6,995
2009(09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£6,995
2009(59) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1100 miles.....	£6,495
2008(08) CHEVROLET KALOS SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(57) CHEVROLET KALOS SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles.....	£5,495
2006(56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£4,995
2007(57) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£4,495
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£4,495
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles.....	£4,495
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles.....	£4,495

HYUNDAI

2010(10) HYUNDAI I20 COMFORT SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 800 miles.....	£10,495
2007(56) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, RED, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58) HYUNDAI MATRIX COMFORT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles.....	£7,495
2008(58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(57) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI SALOON AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£5,995
2006(56) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(07) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles.....	£5,495
2004(54) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£3,995

KIA

2009(09) KIA CEEED GS SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles.....	£8,995
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DAIHATSU

2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles.....	£6,995

BMW

2007(57) BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TD SALOON AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£14,995
2004(54) BMW 3 SERIES 316TI ES SDR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles.....	£5,995

FIAT

2010(10) FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles.....	£8,995
2007(56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 25000 miles.....	£4,995

FUSION

2010(10) FORD FUSION TITANIUM SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10) FORD FUSION ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(09) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(07) FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles.....	£5,995

CITROEN

2007(57) CITROEN CX SX 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, DIABLO RED, 13000 miles.....	£5,995
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CORSA

2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£11,495
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC SDR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(59) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles.....	£9,495
2009(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles.....	£8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 5000 miles.....	£7,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 20000 miles.....	£6,495
2003(53) VAUXHALL CORSA ELEGANCE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 26000 miles.....	£3,995

MAZDA

2010(10) MAZDA 5 5 TAKARA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles.....	£13,995
2008(58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2007(57) MAZDA 3 3 TS SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2006(56) MAZDA 6 6 TS SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(57) MAZDA 2 2 CAPELLA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(56) MAZDA 2 2 S SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£5,995

SUZUKI

2009(09) SUZUKI GRAND VITARA X-EC ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£14,995
2009(59) SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 16V ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£12,995
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles.....	£9,495
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,995

TOYOTA

2007(57) TOYOTA PRIUS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£12,995
2007(57) TOYOTA AURIS T SPIRIT VVT-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(07) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(07) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, VEGAN SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(54) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, IXON BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(05) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T SPIRIT VVT-I MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 9000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 5000 miles.....	£7,495
2005(54) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T SPIRIT VVT-I MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£7,495
2004(54) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£6,995
2005(05) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(07) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(54) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1750 miles.....	£6,995
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£6,995
2005(51) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 25000 miles.....	£6,495
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles.....	£6,295
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 25000 miles.....	£5,495

NISSAN

2009(59) NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC SDR HATCH 4x4, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£18,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£17,995
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles.....	£17,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£15,995
2007(57) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH, CAFFELATTE, 19000 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60) NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN SDR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 1000 miles.....	£12,995
2009(59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1600 miles.....	£8,995
2009(59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£8,495
2009(59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 7000 miles.....	£8,495
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, EMOTION RED, 14000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£7,995
2010(10) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 500 miles.....	£7,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles.....	£6,995
2006(56) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£5,995
2005(05) NISSAN ALMERA S SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£4,995
2004(04) NISSAN MICRA S SDR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£4,495
2002(02) NISSAN MICRA S SDR HATCH, WHITE, 10000 miles.....	£2,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIV 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£8,495
2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 2000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 19000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 20000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BEIGE/BUFF, 14000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£5,995

ASTRA ESTATES

2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 15000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£6,995
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 16000 miles.....	£6,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£5,995

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

IT'S been a bad week for Kent, and it's going to get worse.

The closure of Pfizer will mean 2,400 posts lost – and many highly skilled staff will be looking to leave Kent for other specialist positions in the UK and abroad.

Not only that, the knock-on carnage in the supply chain could mean another 3,000 workers are out of a job. Amid the gloom we offer a few shafts of light – we meet the former professional footballer who has turned his love of the game into a thriving business.

And there's advice for SMEs on how to improve their prospects of raising some much-needed finance.

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Braced for shockwave of R&D base's closure

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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THE impending closure of Pfizer's Sandwich base is expected to have a devastating knock-on effect on the Kent economy.

In addition to the 2,400 direct employees who will be made redundant over the next two years, an estimated 3,000 extra jobs may also be lost once contractors and other small businesses lose their main source of revenue.

Andrew Aves – regional organiser of the Kent branch of the Federation of Small Businesses – described the situation as “very serious”.

He added: “Clearly the supply chain is going to be affected too, such as the people who work in the staff canteen, for example. I wouldn't have thought the staff at Pfizer clean their own windows either.”

“But the knock-on effect will be significant right across the board, because if you remove the wage packets of 2,400 people then the grocery



stores, pubs, restaurants, theatres and so on are all going to suffer. People commute to Sandwich from Canterbury, Thanet and elsewhere, so the closure of Pfizer presents a huge risk to the economic sustainability of east Kent, which is vulnerable enough as it is.”

Pfizer – which lays claim to some of the world's biggest medical discoveries, including anti-impotence drug Viagra – is based in Surrey and has other operations in Maidenhead, Aberdeen and Cambridge.

The Sandwich site conducts research and

development on allergy and respiratory drugs.

At its peak, about 5,000 staff worked there, but numbers halved after manufacturing ended at the site in 2007.

Jo James, chief executive of Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, said the closure was a “huge blow” to the county.

She added: “An operation of the scale of Pfizer draws heavily on the local supply chain in terms of goods, services and infrastructure. The knock-on effect of the closure will undoubtedly be heavy in east Kent, and probably throughout the county.”

“Pfizer is also representative of a very special hi-tech science sector of which Kent has been justifiably proud. Its withdrawal from the area, which has provided such a valuable infrastructure for years, is extremely disappointing.”

Ms James added that she felt Sandwich and east Kent as a whole should have the ability and talent to overcome the loss of Pfizer.

She said: “We can but hope that with government help the facilities, the workforce and the local supply chain can move onto other things to mitigate the effects.”

Tourism growth's solid foundations

A STRIKING campaign aimed at marketing the county as cool and contemporary has drawn in an additional £18 million for the tourism industry.

In its first five months the £400,000 Kent Contemporary project, designed by Visit Kent and M&C Saatchi, pulled in almost 420,000 extra visitors. The campaign featured posters – displayed at London stations and on the Underground – of unusual images of Kent captured by leading photographer Jean Luc Bernard.

The aim was to tempt city dwellers and people from across the South East and Europe to the county to enjoy its natural and historic delights.

The chief executive of Visit Kent, Sandra Matthews-Marsh, said the campaign was already proving its worth. “I am looking forward to working with more tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses and organisations committed to growing our economy,” she added.

The campaign – which featured three key images: Hever Castle; Botany Bay in Thanet; and the Goods Shed in Canterbury – also encouraged county residents to take more overnight trips and day trips in Kent, with a total value of just under £11 million – although this figure was not included in the economic impact data.

Cllr Kevin Lynes, Kent County Council's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said: “These are stunning results and it's great to see so many people visiting our county. This campaign opened the eyes of many potential visitors by showing them the hidden gems we all take for granted.”

“We have more than 3,000 tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses in Kent and their success is crucial. KCC is committed to working with Visit Kent and investors to promote this industry, which contributes more than £2.5 billion to our economy every year and supports 50,000 jobs.”

“So many people are benefiting from the success of the Kent Contemporary campaign.”



COOL KENT: Hever Castle, above, Botany Bay and the Goods Shed featured in campaign



Comment

THIS week's decision by Pfizer to close its base in Sandwich serves as a harsh reminder of the world we currently live in.

While the Government prefers to use words like "recovery" and "revival" when referring to the economy these days, it's clear business is still struggling and that even the biggest multinational corporations are being forced to cut their losses.

The 2,400 employees directly affected by the impending closure of Pfizer have some big decisions to make over the next two years, as it is clear such highly-specialised jobs will be hard to come by anywhere else in the county.

Many will be forced to leave Kent in search of alternative employment, while some may decide they have no choice but to seek a new career path altogether.

There is also the knock-on effect the closure is bound to have on the local economy. As both the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Small Businesses have pointed out, there are likely to be many more firms that will suffer from the loss of such a huge employer.

What will happen to all the shop workers, restaurant staff, cleaners, canteen workers and so on who rely on the cash spent by Pfizer's army of workers? Unfortunately it looks like many will end up beside them in the dole queue.

However, through the dark storm clouds gathering over Sandwich, there are some who can just make out a glimmer of hope in the distance.

They say the site is just too large and too hi-tech to be wasted, and that the demise of Pfizer in Kent could lead to an influx of science-led companies that could make full use of the technology available to them.

Kent County Council is well aware of how important the Sandwich base is to the east Kent economy and beyond, and should be pushing the Government to do all it can to ensure such a positive outcome.

First LEP meeting sets the agenda for economic growth

By **MARIJKE COX**

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THE first meeting of a new economic powerhouse has taken place, kick-starting the new generation of Local Enterprise Partnerships.

Leaders from the public and private sectors in Kent, Greater Essex and East Sussex met in Dartford last week to discuss the work ahead of them and the priorities of the new organisation.

The LEP, which is seen as one of the successors of the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), will work with businesses in the region to drive economic growth and regeneration.

Funds will come from bids to central government, unlike with predecessor Seeda, which received tens of millions of pounds every year.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter said the first meeting went well but stressed the board was still temporary and members may change.

"We decided 45 people around the table was too many to carry out the day-to-day business so we will have an executive board that will report back to the LEP partners," he said.

"We'll also do an executive search to get the right person for the job of chairman."

Cllr Carter said priorities set out in the original LEP bid had remained consistent.

"We're trying to support significant regeneration and change in deprived coastal reaches. We're also looking to work on how to deliver more in the Thames Gateway and ensure support for rural economies."

"Other priorities are the need for greater housing growth and transport networks. We're trying to be more proactive in coming up with solutions like in our Growth Without Gridlock document, which looks at development such as building a third Thames crossing."

"The LEP will come up with all sorts of innovative solutions through public and private sector working."

Deprived

Cllr Carter said the LEP area had significant needs and the profile had to be raised.

"We have deprived coastal areas that need help. Money goes into the North and North East of England where there is poverty - we need that too," he said.

"The different areas [Kent, Greater Essex and East Sussex] coming together on common issues will mean greater impact on Government and more influence. Ultimately, we all endeavour to make a difference."

Representatives from Kent and Medway's Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) attended the meet-

ing and gave a cautious welcome to the progress being made.

The organisation, which represents 6,700 businesses in Kent, said it was pleased the original work programme set out by the LEP - launched at the House of Lords in October - had remained the same.

Kent and Medway FSB chairman Roger House said: "The interim board has agreed its priorities for the LEP and will now be looking to work with partners including other business organisations, universities, colleges and local authorities to deliver those objectives."

"The FSB is willing to play its part to ensure those projects are delivered in a cost-effective way that will bring real benefits for businesses, residents and the economies across the LEP area."

"We have already seen this Government exclude the LEP from schemes which would benefit our local economies, such as the National Insurance contribution 'holiday', which means local start-ups are paying up to an extra £10,000 to employ staff compared with firms elsewhere in the UK."

"And also the Enterprise Allowance Scheme which gives grants to long-term unemployed people wishing to start their own businesses."

"We believe it is important that within its work the LEP gets the message across that excluding local entrepreneurs from such schemes is a false economy and damages UK plc."



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Air Ambulance lands funding boost

KEEN consumer voting has won a £7,000 NatWest community donation for the Kent Air Ambulance.

After launching the Customer Charter in July, RBS and NatWest announced details of a new Community Fund to support charities and projects, and invited customers and local people to decide who should benefit.

Kent Air Ambulance amassed £7,000 after winning the £3,000 top prizes in the banks' Larkfield and Tunbridge Wells trading areas, plus a runner-up prize of £1,000 from the Sittingbourne fund - the county has 11 funding areas.

Nationally, more than 1,100 organisations will receive a donation. Kent Air Ambulance is a proven lifesaver, responding to emergencies across the county by flying in a specialist doctor and paramedic by helicopter.

Response

Advanced procedures can be carried out at the scene before flying the patient to hospital.

NatWest's Kent director Maria Fisher said: "We've had an overwhelming response to the Community Fund and it's clear that people in Kent are passionate about the Air Ambulance charity and we're delighted to be able to make this donation and support the work they do."

Jill Playle, from Kent Air Ambulance, said: "We are thrilled to be awarded £7,000 and gain recognition for our efforts."

"The money will go towards running costs to allow us to continue to provide this lifesaving service to the people of Kent. Our thanks go to the public for voting for our worthy cause."



QUIDS IN: Air Ambulance staff welcome NatWest's £7,000 donation



Making timely case for extra winter light

A KENT businessman has asked his MP to support daylight saving time and queried whether we should be putting our clocks back in the autumn.

Aaron Dewhurst, managing director of the Glass Wipe Board Company, based in Hythe, spoke to his MP, Damian Collins, on local business matters.

One area of conversation was the daylight saving debate and how it could affect Kent businesses.

Daylight saving time was introduced in the early 20th century and since then Britons have been putting the clocks one hour ahead in spring and winding them back one hour during autumn.

Over the years the public and politicians have debated whether we should be moving the clocks back at all. Mr Collins, the MP for Folkestone and Hythe, supports daylight saving and believes businesses could benefit from having more daylight in winter afternoons.

He said: "Businesses in retail and leisure could open later and have more daylight trading time. Commuters would have the opportunity to travel home in the light."

Activity

"It would also reduce energy costs and increase business activity, therefore daylight saving would benefit not only local businesses but countrywide businesses too. The Daylight Saving Bill 2010-11, a private members' bill, has been introduced to Parliament. If passed, the Government will conduct further analysis, tests and reports. Prime Minister David Cameron would want the country on the whole to support the bill."

Mr Dewhurst believes an extra hour of daylight in the afternoon will have a huge benefit.


He said: "Not only will it allow an extra hour of trading for Kent businesses, but it is argued that road traffic injuries would reduce as children and some commuters would be travelling home in the daylight."

"Energy costs may be reduced as people are more likely to go outside rather than stay indoors where artificial lighting is used. An extra hour in the afternoon may also give tourism a boost because the extra afternoon light would lengthen the tourist season."

"Tourism-related businesses such as retail, hospitality and transport would benefit from the extra hour of trade along with the prospect of more tourists."

To view this clip, log on @
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 Julie Maddocks reports from the Port of Dover as P&O launches Spirit of Britain, its biggest ever cross-Channel ferry



EXPANSION: The Ardo Food Ingredients team formed after the Ploegmakers acquisition

County's 'big conversation' turns to future food security

THE security of Kent's food production, horticulture and agriculture was the main topic of discussion at a business event.

Kent County Council and the Kent Economic Board organised the debate in conjunction with East Malling Research and other major players in the production sector.

The event, viewed as a 'big conversation' with land-based businesses and their advisers, is part of KCC's and KEB's efforts to get closer to key industries to ensure Kent's future prosperity.

The conference was chaired by Jon Regan of Hugh Lowe Farms, KEB's business champion for the sector, at the East Malling Research conference centre.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter told the conference: "Businesses in the food chain in Kent employ more than 85,000 people and the sector is worth an estimated £2.6bn per annum to the county's economy."

"It is vital that we listen to their needs in order to ensure they can contribute to the future wellbeing of Kent and emerging priorities of the Local Enterprise Partnership."

"Feedback from this event will contribute to future business development in the county and give us a clearer understanding of what this diverse industry needs to succeed."

"We will then be better placed to look at planning policy, providing the right skills for the workforce and speaking on behalf of the industry in the corridors of Westminster."

An audience representing more than 100 businesses attended the discussion, which brought together the National

By **MATHEW BEECH**

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Farmers' Union, the Country Land and Business Association, and Hadlow College.

Oliver Doubleday, chairman of EMR and MD of GH Dean & Co, said: "With our global population growing at a dramatic rate we will need to increase food production by 40 per cent by 2030 – and on less land, using less water, pesticides, fertilisers and energy."

"With food security a global issue, we will need to make sure the UK's production is as efficient as possible."

"Government and the industry must invest more in research and development to ensure the industry is best placed to adapt to climate change and EMR remains a jewel in Kent's crown."

KEB and KCC plan more 'big conversations' with key industry sectors in the county, including construction and civil engineering; low-carbon and energy production; health and social care; and the digital and creative media sectors.

KEB chairman Geoff Miles said: "The land-based sector sent a strong message to ourselves and our partners that it is committed to playing its part in helping Kent to grow."

"If the other sectors show the same level of commitment as the land-based one did today then Kent is well-placed for economic success."

All the right ingredients for success

A FOOD manufacturer has acquired a Dutch ingredients firm to expand its position in the sector.

Ardo, one of Europe's largest food companies, has taken on Ploegmakers Food Ingredients which supplies fresh-frozen and refrigerated fruit, vegetables and herbs for different food products, including ready meals and sauces.

The Dutch company has an annual turnover of about £30 million. Through the acquisition, a new company called Ardo Food Ingredients has been established.

Debbie Henry, UK business sector manager of the new firm and who is based at Ardo's UK headquarters at Charing, near Ashford, said: "We already have a very successful food manufacturing sector, but the acquisition of Ploegmakers means we can now provide additional expertise, increased capacity, and a wider product range."

"The integration of a highly sector-focused provider with our portfolio will enable Ardo Food Ingredients to become a major player in the sector and the company of choice for frozen fruit, vegetables and herbs for industrial customers."

Ardo, which is based in Belgium, has 15 production and packing units in eight European countries.

It supplies 520,000 tonnes of frozen fruit, vegetables, pasta and rice to 54 countries each year and has an annual turnover of around £480m.

The company recently invested £15m in a new hi-tech factory at Charing.



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Cutting back on VAT – not your profits

By **TRACEY BOOTH**, VAT specialist at Reeves & Co LLP chartered accountants and business advisers, with offices in Canterbury and Chatham

NOW that the standard rate of VAT has increased to 20 per cent, small businesses will find the thought of reducing their VAT burden even more appealing.

Those with an annual, VAT-exclusive turnover below £150,000 per year may make big savings in their VAT payments by operating the 'flat-rate scheme'.

Once approved to use the scheme by HMRC, a business can account for VAT on its turnover at a lower rate of VAT, while still charging customers the full 20 per cent.

Different rates apply to different types of business. For example, hairdressers or beauticians account for VAT at a rate of 13 per cent; a management consultant 14 per cent; an architect or surveyor 14.5 per cent; a general builder (providing goods as well as services) 9.5 per cent; and pubs 6.5 per cent.

In return, the business does not make a separate claim for VAT on its purchases, except for capital items over £2,000 (eg, a commercial vehicle or plant and machinery) or stock and assets on hand at the date of registration, for which VAT can be recovered as normal.

If using the scheme within the first year of VAT registration the published rate can be reduced by one per cent for that first year following registration.

Once on the scheme, a business



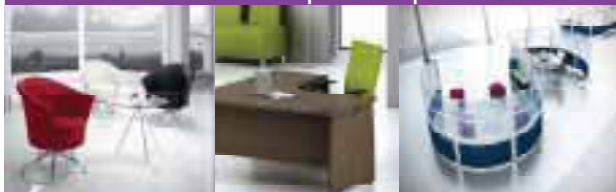
TRACEY BOOTH: Tax advice

does not have to leave it until its tax inclusive turnover in the last 12 months, or looking forward, in the next 30 days, exceeds £230,000.

Those having difficulties with customers' late or non-payment of invoices may also find it beneficial to use cash accounting alongside the flat rate scheme, which allows the business to account for VAT only once it receives payment.



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INTERVIEW

Fans used to a diet of high-octane Premiership football featuring millionaire players found themselves on short rations during the England team's performance in the World Cup finals last year. During post-tournament recriminations, a recurring theme was the lack of good homegrown talent nurtured by top English clubs, happy to import crowd pleasers from abroad. But is this set to change? Not at club level so much, but at the grass roots? **STEVE LOADER** went to watch and then became engrossed in a soccer training session at Maidstone



TONY BROWNE

IT WAS a cold January night and I wasn't expecting much as I turned up for the end of SoccerElite training in Maidstone. The plan was to witness a session before interviewing one of the organisation's co-directors and former professional player, Tony Browne.

Will it have changed that much since my day, though? A time when grumpy and grizzled old coaches would shout grudging praise and seemingly gleeful abuse in equal amounts.

The answer is yes, if SoccerElite is anything to go by. I quickly found myself drawn into watching the obvious enthusiasm shown by youngsters, first practising skills and then playing a quickfire game, with Tony skilfully maintaining the tempo via chirpy tips and lobbing in a replacement ball quickly when the previous one had gone into touch.

BY the end, the players – some as young as seven, but all shapes and heights – left the floodlit practice field at Maplesden Noakes School, chattering loudly.

After this workout, Tony, 34, stressed how important it was that, even when a lad missed a shot or was caught in possession, that his advice should carry a positive message. Not surprisingly, I find he has added a degree in sport science and psychology to his professional playing experience and FA coaching qualifications.

He and co-director Lee Spiller, 32 – another experienced professional and a former team-mate – started SoccerElite four years ago after perceiving a gap between local training efforts via schools and small clubs, and the professional clubs – the need for a kind of

football academy.

Not only has the business taken off, but unearthed a string of potential future stars after numerous trials with major clubs and signings with the likes of Tottenham, Arsenal and Chelsea and with Kent's biggest club, Gillingham.

SoccerElite sides now regularly play academy sides from the top clubs – many of these lead to a young player being spotted and invited for a trial or to sign.

More importantly perhaps, SoccerElite players are also exposed to foreign counterparts early through international tournaments. Last year some 60 players, aged seven to 12, accompanied by about 100 parents, took part in a series in Italy. This year they will contest a tournament in Valencia, Spain.

"They meet different types of players and skills, but it's not just about football; it's just an unforgettable

TONY BROWNE'S CV

• 1993 – left St John Fisher School, Chatham, and joined West Ham United. Other clubs included Brighton & Hove Albion, Gravesend & Northfleet, Folkestone Invicta, Welling United, Dover Athletic, and Ashford Town

• 2007 – co-founded SoccerEliteFA with former team mate Lee Spiller

• 2011 – embarked on ambitious expansion plan to take the organisation regional and then national



BLUE BOY: SoccerElite's Tony Browne (left) and Lee Spiller witness protege George Young, from Maidstone, signing for Premiership club Chelsea

game's dream factory

experience that will take them to even greater heights," said Tony, with typical enthusiasm, adding: "While we are developing youngsters' individual skills, we are also teaching them to play in a team. It's not about results, it's about that awareness of working together and every player wanting to get on the ball as part of the team effort."

SoccerElite is now in the process of restructuring in order to expand outside of Kent, aiming to double in size each year over the next two years (see comment below by Phil Beavan of Innovation & Growth).

Tony himself was spotted early by West Ham United, which maintained a position in the top flight then largely through spotting and bringing on young talent, both to supply its team and to sell on.

His own experience convinced him of the need for organised training early on: "People just don't see it, but Lee and I know what made us better players, and that's what allows you to make that extra step up. Then you are playing with better players and that raises your game, increases your options and so on."

SoccerElite runs a team of experienced coaches and charges £7 a week per player, currently training around 400 youngsters – boys and girls – in and around the Maidstone area, including a special goalkeepers' master class.

"We pay a premium rate to use the best facilities available," said Tony. "It doesn't

compare well with what I've seen in America mind you, where I visited one college that had a 20,000-seat stadium and filled it virtually every game, but the game has a different structure out there.

"And facilities are getting better here, despite the fact that just putting in floodlights for an evening practice facility starts at around half a million. Ultimately though, we want our own training facility."

Tony – a versatile midfielder and defender – hung up his boots two years ago: "The business was really taking off and taking my time. I work five nights a week and Saturdays at Chelsea's Academy – and, on the field... well, I wasn't getting any quicker.

"Of course I miss it, but this is great, too, working with young talent. I was also lucky enough to play with great players like Frank Lampard and Rio Ferdinand and it would be nice to think we are nurturing talents like that – there are not enough flair players coming through the English system.

"But SoccerElite is not just about the obvious talent. It's also about those kids who have something that will take longer to come out. Everyone's different and there are many kids whose footballing brain takes time to develop, or they are not physically ready.

"They are the types who get overlooked by the system, but we can carry on working with them so that they get a chance later or simply get more out of their game."



DREAM TEAM:
Enthusiasm for the game is clear at SoccerElite

PHIL BEAVAN – portfolio director of the Government-funded South East Business Innovation & Growth advisory service:

"What we have worked on with SoccerElite is changing a successful football coaching academy into a well-structured business that happens to coach football, in order to generate the higher levels of growth that the business deserves."

"SoccerElite is a very strong brand that has huge potential and what this restructuring will do is lighten the administrative burden on the management team and their backroom staff."

"At the moment the company is Kent's best known business secret and what we have looked at is putting the pieces in place to double size and turnover over the next 12 months, and go again the year after and through expansion outside of Kent. The company will remain Kent-based and become a major export for the county."



TONY'S TOP TIPS

• Catch 'em young – "We say it's obvious for football, but it applies to any skill or talent. Nurture it early and you will get the best from it."

• Give positive advice – "Stick and carrot was the traditional way, but youngsters can take it hard. I'm often shocked – like many people – by the stuff parents shout at kids from the touchline. We always try to be upbeat – it works. And it applies in all walks of life, not just football."

• Take advice yourself: "We have built a good business without any outside funding. We've used our savings and then some, and worked really hard, but we wonder whether we could have achieved more with outside help and advice. Now we have backers and sound professional advisers, we can go to the next level with confidence."



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Parkway station 'key to avoiding gridlock'

By **MARIJKE COX**

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THE wheels have been set in motion for the development of crucial transport links with the launch of a multi-million-pound funding bid.

If successful, Kent could see a share of up to £10 million of Government's £1.4 billion Regional Growth Fund which would go towards the planned Thanet Parkway station at Manston.

The proposed development is one of a list of priorities, including a third Thames crossing and solution to Operation Stack, outlined by Kent County Council as part of a landmark strategy called Growth Without Gridlock.

Transport chiefs said the station, which would be on the Ashford to Ramsgate line, would not only help create thousands of jobs in east Kent, but improve the much-criticised rail network and boost business at Kent International Airport in Manston.

Kent County Council's former cabinet member for environment, highways and waste Cllr Nick Chard said it would have an enormous impact on Thanet and the surrounding area.



RIGHT TRACK: A Manston parkway station on the Ashford line could unlock investment

"We are working closely with Network Rail and we are trying to fund it by bidding for money from the Regional Growth Fund," he said. For me, it's a question of when we do this, not if."

The proposed development would improve journey times between Ashford and Ramsgate, where high-speed trains from east Kent are unable to reach full speed until nearer London.

North Thanet MP Roger Gale has been campaigning for better rail services for the area. He

said: "Upgrading the line between Ashford and Ramsgate and the creation of the Thanet Parkway station would also unlock investment."

Charles Buchanan, the chief executive of Manston, said anything that improved links and connectivity in east Kent could only be a good thing.

"The parkway station would have a positive impact on the area – we identified this in our own master plan for growth," he said. "East Kent will become a weekend destination for tourists, and residents and businesses can be served by an airport on their doorstep."

The £10m bid was put together by Kent County Council, Thanet District Council, Network Rail, Southeastern and Kent International Airport owner Infratil.

The Government said successful bids will be announced within 50 days.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said a Thanet Parkway station would support economic growth with an estimated 1,000 jobs created per million new air passengers.

He added that improvement to transport networks in east Kent could help create 6,000 jobs by 2033.

"To deliver true growth and prosperity we need radical plans and innovative new ways to fund them," Cllr Carter said.

The case for a Thanet Parkway station is explained in KCC's transport delivery plan Growth Without Gridlock. Click on www.kent.gov.uk to view the plan.

Having your say on future of industry

MANUFACTURERS are being urged to respond to a government growth review to have their say on the future of the industry.

The Advanced Manufacturing Growth Review document outlines the aims of the manufacturing sector, sets out the key competitive strengths and examines the major long-term growth opportunities.

The Manufacturing Advisory Service South East is asking Kent firms to respond before the February 11 deadline.

Programme manager David Caddle said the document sets out the action Government is taking within the sector.

"What we want to do as an organisation is to make sure manufacturers in our region know about this framework and are given every opportunity to comment on the plans," he said.

"There will never be a better opportunity for firms, working at the coalface, to have their views fed into the decision making process so they actually influence policy that will evolve over the next decade."

Strengths

The Advanced Manufacturing Growth Review will reflect the capabilities of UK manufacturing, the strengths of the economy and the opportunities for broad-based growth from globalisation, technological development and the move to a low-carbon economy.

It will also aim to tackle barriers such as skills shortages, rising energy costs, security of supply, export and regulatory issues.

Mr Caddle said: "Manufacturers need to read the document and ask, are these ambitions the right ones? Are there more pressing issues? What Government action would you like to see?"

"We have already had a £50 million commitment to enhance the Manufacturing Advisory Service and a further £600,000 is being invested in a two-year automation and robotics programme that will deliver greater productivity and increase precision performance. It is pleasing to see advanced manufacturing is so high on the list of priorities and companies need to do their bit to ensure their voice is heard."

To download the document, go to www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/business-sectors/docs/g/10-1297-growth-review-framework-for-advanced-manufacturing.

Comments should be sent to amgr@bis.gsi.gov.uk by February 11.

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Are you employing the right finance to suit your needs?

WARREN MULVIHILL, the regional director for commercial banking at NatWest in Kent, explains how SMEs – small to medium-size enterprises – can improve their chances of gaining access to finance

IT IS important during the current climate to have a relationship with your bank that goes beyond just being a lender.

Banks are a great source of free business advice and can share a whole range of knowledge and tips on how to manage your cashflow and plan ahead for any potential pitfalls your business may face.

Providing business advice and support to SMEs is at the very heart of our business proposition at NatWest and we are committed to providing added value that will benefit all business sizes and ensure you make an informed decision.



ADDED VALUE: Explore banking options

In response to feedback from customers, the bank has packaged a number of lending initiatives designed to help them maintain a healthy cash position and identify growth areas. These include already established Government-backed lending schemes – the Enterprise Finance Guarantee scheme and European Investment Bank loan – as well as specific initiatives launched by the bank including a £1 billion Manufacturing Fund, SME Exporters Package, SME Customer Charter and the Business Hotline, as well as traditional banking facilities and lines of credit.

Indeed, with increased access to the wide range of funding schemes now available it is fair to say there are more finance options available to SMEs than ever before, so it is increasingly important for business owners

to explore all options and ensure the solution fits their business, rather than the other way round.

Lending is not the only proposition that supports your business, though. It is vital that you review your finances and ensure any excess funds are not laying dormant in current accounts but are positioned in deposit facilities tailored to suit your needs.

OUR deposits team has a wealth experience and knowledge to help support customers to find the best solution to meet their deposit needs to ensure your funds work as hard as you do and in line with your business aspirations.

For companies looking to diversify their risk, developing export markets is an ideal way of doing this while at the same time tapping into new areas of growth opportunities. It can seem a complex activity with a lengthy order to cash cycle, but we're here to help simplify the process and offer all the support we can.

In addition to having a strong product that appeals to overseas markets, you need to be able to assess your prospective customer's credit standing as well as cross-border collection risks. You also need to have a strong understanding of the specific risks you face in exporting.

That is why at NatWest we have developed a dedicated suite of materials and services that provides exporters with all the information they need to be successful.

The launch of the free Exporters Package last year covers the main risks exporters face, and the solutions available to help them manage these; together with details of a range of funding products for pre-shipment and post-shipment financing, and online tools that improve visibility and control over the financial aspects of export transactions.

THROUGH our comprehensive trade finance offering we can help customers to manage a range of risks, from fulfilling major export orders without having upfront payments to customer insolvency.

We have a presence in more than 35 countries, including the major trading economies worldwide, as well as an extensive partner bank network.

RBS also recently increased its credit risk appetite by extending its invoice finance offer to over 50 approved countries and trade finance to over 80 countries, including many of the UK's top export destinations.

These are just some of the ways in which we are working closely with our customers to provide that extra support needed in the current economic environment and demonstrate our continued commitment to helping SMEs.



BANK ON IT: SMEs can take advantage of the range of business advice and expertise on offer

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NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight
will focus on the legal sector

TALKS A GOOD GAME

Bosses from some of Kent's top clubs discuss the pros and cons of managing a non-league team



Interview with
DAVID PRITCHARD

LONG hours, little or no financial reward, perilous job security, those without a thick skin need not apply.

Hardly the dream job description, even in today's climate, yet despite the obvious drawbacks there is never a shortage of candidates when a vacancy appears at a non-league football club.

The answer to why people put themselves through such apparent hardships varies from manager to manager, but for all a love of the game is never far from the surface.

It is 24 years since Neil Cugley took his first steps in management, the last 14 of which have been spent in charge at Folkestone Invicta. The job has changed dramatically during his long career, but the central motivation remains.

"Winning," he said. "Definitely that's the big thing and putting a team together to do that. When you get the win it all seems worthwhile. Sometimes it doesn't come along as quickly as you hoped – last season we were winning most of our games and this season we're not – but it's a great feeling even at this standard. It's great to go up a level and really test yourself – it's exhilarating going to places like Kingstonian and getting a result.

Criticism

"I've got to be honest, it feels better now than when I first started. When you're younger you think it's easy and then you realise how much hard work goes into it.

"Of course the criticism gets you down a bit. People are a bit different now than when I started – everyone was a bit more easy-going – but now with websites there's a lot more scrutiny and people are more knowledgeable."

Further up the Ryman Premier, one man who has been on the receiving end of criticism from the terraces this season is Tonbridge Angels manager Tommy Warrilow.

A poor start saw him come under pressure, but the dissent at Longmead evaporated with a strong sequence of results that has seen the club climb the table.

Into his third full season as manager, Warrilow describes the job as a drug but admits the flak can still sting.

Sideline heroes



FOOTBALL MAD: Managers Neil Cugley (Folkestone Invicta), Tommy Warrilow (Tonbridge Angels) and Marc Seager (ex-Whitstable)

He said: "I'm not going to lie, it does hurt and does affect my mood. We drew last Saturday and three days later I still had the hump. You expect to get criticism when things aren't going right, but the same person who is calling for your head one week will be cheering your name a couple of weeks later if you get the results. If you're going to take the criticism to heart you're not going to make it.

"Once you stop playing, it's the next step, otherwise you just stop completely and watch, which isn't really in my make-up. One thing you're not doing it for is the financial reward – you get a bit for it, but the hours outweigh that. You have some weeks where you're doing something every day. It's very time-consuming and you do need an understanding family – that's key.

"The reason I do it is because I'm ambitious. I'm not doing it just to tick over, I want the clubs I'm at to be successful with me."

Dropping two divisions into the Kent League, the demands on Herne Bay boss Simon Halsey's time are no lighter. After more than a decade in the relatively stress-free position as assistant manager at a variety of clubs, he stepped up to take over at Winch's Field just over a year ago.

Demands

Despite enjoying a good start to life as a manager, he believes few outside the profession understand the demands the role brings.

"I don't think people do appreciate how much time it takes. For me as a coach, it was quite easy to do my session, speak to the manager and that was it until the next game. It's not the same as a manager, it's not a case of switching off at 5pm on a Saturday.

"I do enjoy being in charge. I never thought I would and anyone who knows me will say I didn't want to be a manager, but

when the opportunity came up at Herne Bay it just felt right."

But the long hours can take a heavy toll.

Marc Seager went straight from playing into management but after a successful spell in charge at Whitstable Town stepped down to spend more time with his family, feeling he was missing out on watching his young son grow up.

After a clean break last season during which he watched almost no games live, the lure of a return to management is growing.

He said: "I'd like to go full-time. I'd love to manage at Conference South level and be around better players, but you have to be focused. The last year I haven't been because I wanted to be fully focused on my family – that's the most important thing."

"Football will always be number one with me professionally – if I'm honest I can't get enough of it. It's a full-time job for a part-time position, but if you want to be a good manager that's what it takes."

COUNTDOWN TO THE OPEN

158 DAYS THE NUMBER OF BUNKERS LYING IN WAIT FOR PLAYERS AT SUNNINGDALE IN BERKSHIRE, VENUE FOR THE LAST INTERNATIONAL FINAL QUALIFYING EVENT IN JUNE FOR THIS YEAR'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP



THE LONDON Golf Club has won the right to host one of the English Golf Union (EGU)'s flagship events.

The final of the Brabazon Trophy, England's open amateur strokeplay championship, will be held at the course, near Ash, in June 2013.

It adds the club's name to an illustrious list of venues to have hosted the tournament in its 64-year history, including Royal Birkdale, The Oxfordshire and fellow Kent venues Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports.

After regional qualifying tournaments, the final 72-hole competition will be held at the London Club.

It is the first time the EGU has held a prestigious competition at the club, which has hosted events on the European Tour and European Seniors' Tour in recent years.

Austen Gravestock, general manager at the London Club, was delighted with the announcement.

He said: "It's a privilege and we are proud to be the hosts for 2013. We see

it as a fantastic complement to the tournaments we have had previously and we're very pleased to be supporting the EGU.

"It's great to be associated with a tournament which has been held at so many great venues and we're thrilled to be part of its rich heritage."

Several previous winners have gone on to enjoy successful careers on the European Tour, including Charl Schwartzel, Ignacio Garrido and Sandy Lyle.



Picture: LONDON GOLF CLUB

FLAGSHIP EVENT: The London Golf Club will host the Brabazon Trophy in June 2013

New Indy team deal the icing on cake for Conway after recovery from crash

'I'm back on track'

FRESH START: Mike Conway has signed for Andretti Autosport and is eager to return to the track after a horrendous accident last year

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

MIKE Conway has been given a golden opportunity to further his career after agreeing to race for one of IndyCar's top teams this season.

The 27-year-old will drive for Andretti Autosport when the season begins in March after announcing a deal earlier this week. It marks a significant move up the grid in the North American series after two seasons at Dreyer & Reinbold Racing.

Conway's new team-mates will be Ryan Hunter-Reay, Danica Patrick and Marco Andretti, all of whom finished last season in the top 10. The team have long been a fixture at the front of the field and their drivers have won the championship in three of the last seven seasons.

A delighted Conway, who is from Sevenoaks,

said: "This is a really exciting moment in my career to be racing for Andretti Autosport. It's going to be an honour working with some great people and great team-mates, and I can't wait to get started.

"Everyone is fired up, especially me, and I'm ready for the challenge ahead. I can't wait to hit the track and start achieving some great results."

The move took many by surprise, with the Sevenoaks driver missing two-thirds of last season after sustaining back and leg injuries in a 220mph crash at the Indianapolis 500 last May.

Rehabilitation

It was initially hoped he would be back behind the wheel before the end of the season, but rehabilitation took longer than expected.

Despite the time out of the sport, his reputation as a promising talent remains. After rising to prominence in Europe with spells in Formula 3 and GP2, Conway crossed the Atlantic to join Dreyer & Reinbold in 2009.

A podium finish in his rookie year was followed by three top-10s at the start of last season. He was heading for another strong finish at the Indy 500 before crashing two laps from the end.

Conway had clearly made enough progress to convince Michael Andretti, head of his new team.

He said: "Mike is a great addition to our team, for sure. He is talented, has a lot of potential and should really fit in well with our team here. He was off to a good start last year and had started to show what he is really capable of in the IndyCar Series.

"He's got great credentials, has raced in some very competitive formulas and is a proven winner. We're really excited to be able to bring him to Andretti Autosport."

The new season begins with the Honda Grand Prix of St Petersburg, Florida, on March 27. Conway's first chance to get behind the wheel will come earlier in the month, with tests scheduled in Florida and Alabama.

Golden boys deliver success



VICTORY: Max Nicholls is Tonbridge's first individual champion in 20 years

CLUB history was made at the South of England Cross Country Championships last weekend as Tonbridge's runners scooped a record haul.

Max Nicholls became the club's first individual champion at any age group for 20 years with victory in the under-15 boys. His stand-out performance helped win the team gold, one of four team titles won by Tonbridge at the championships, held at Parliament Hill Fields in south-east London last weekend.

The club's contingent also returned with one team silver and two individual silvers to cap off their best-ever showing at the event, which is second only in importance to the national championships.

Mark Hookway, Tonbridge's team cross country manager, was delighted with the results.

He said: "I didn't really expect it, to be honest. I hoped the three boys' teams would win, but gold for the under-20s men was a surprise. We have a reputation for winning in the younger age groups, but we really want to start winning at under-20s and senior level, so it was an important step."

Andy Combs led home the under-20s, finishing second, while Josh Bentham, Tom Cox and James Taylor all finished in the top 21 as Tonbridge edged out Shaftesbury for the team gold.

The most dominant display came from the under-17s. Their top four runners all came in



RUNNERS-UP: (l-r) Under-20 men Andy Combs, Tom Cox, James Taylor and Josh Bentham

the top 15, with Robbie Farnham Rose first man home in second place.

Nicholls' efforts set up the under-15 boys for glory, while the under-13 boys were also the class act of their field. On the girls' side the under-15s took silver, with Ruth Bourne just missing out on an individual medal, finishing fourth.

No other Kent clubs won medals at the event, but in the senior men, Kent AC's John Gilbert followed up his victory at the county championships last month by finishing 10th.

Next up is the most prestigious event of the winter, the National Championships at Alton Towers on February 19.



Kent sport stars have their say on



The pick of this week's tweets from the county's sports stars

AS A superbike rider, Shane Byrne is used to living on the ragged edge. The start of the season may still be several weeks

away, but the Sheppey star is still getting his adrenalin fix, even when doing something as apparently mundane as walking his dogs.

@67Shakey: "Just walked my dogs up the mountain we live on & bumped literally into a massive wild boar, they're huge, wasn't pleased 2 c my dogs!"

"Fortunately both my dogs are fine, Tyson went toe to toe with it! My heart rate's back down to about 250bpm now, down from about 5,000!! :-)"

You would think it might be safer on a plane, what with all the security checks at airports, but Kent seamer Simon Cook also had a scare.

@simoncook23: "Exciting end to our flight back from Sweden with a couple being forcibly removed by armed police. I thought the swedes were a peaceful lot!!"

Former England skipper and Tunbridge Wells schoolboy Martin Corry watches a lot of rugby now he's retired. You might think all that experience and inside knowledge would give him a hunch over who will win this season's Heineken

Cup, but if he's got a tip he's not letting on. @Martin_Corry: "After seeing the teams who qualify for the quarters, this cup is almost anyone's-no real stand out team."

Plenty of column inches have been used up this week looking at the cash sloshing around the Premier League in the final hours of the transfer window, but perhaps Gillingham winger Dennis Oli summed it up best.

@dieselexpress: "This transfer window has been madness!"

Follow us at www.twitter.com/kentsport for the latest sports news from around the county

Vote for your unsung hero

COUNTY football bosses are looking for this year's unsung heroes after the Football Association opened nominations for its 2011 Community Awards.

The awards recognise outstanding contributions to the sport at grass-roots level and the Kent FA has invited nominations for the eight categories being contested this year.

Traditionally a celebration of the work done behind the scenes by volunteers, coaches and clubs, the award nominations close on March 18. The national winners will be selected by a panel including former England players Sir Geoff Hurst and Sir Trevor Brooking.

The awards include coach of the year, volunteer of the year and outstanding contribution to community football. Winners will be honoured at Wembley Stadium on August 7, the day of the Community Shield.

Hurst said: "This is a great opportunity to celebrate the dedication and commitment shown by clubs, coaches, players and volunteers across the UK and so we'd urge people to nominate."

To put forward a nomination, contact the Kent FA on 01622 791850 or email info@kentfa.com.



CONSISTENT: Sevenoaks ladies aim to break into the outdoor Premier Division

Oaks return to great outdoors

OUTDOOR hockey returns for Sevenoaks' men and women this weekend as the National League resumes with a packed weekend programme.

Both sides enjoyed successful indoor campaigns last month and with back-to-back league games to come on Saturday and Sunday, each will be keen to continue their momentum.

The men's fortunes have been polarised across the two codes, with a fourth straight indoor promotion following eight defeats from their first nine outdoor games in Conference East.

However, Oaks' women have shown far greater consistency this term and having preserved their indoor Division One status, they are now looking to break into the outdoor Premier Division.

Sitting fourth in the Conference East, they face a crucial trip to promotion rivals Ipswich on Saturday, before they host lowly St Albans at Hollybush Lane on Sunday.

Christine Crosley, team manager, said: "There are four teams within three points of each other, so any team that picks up close to a 100 per cent record in the second-half of the season is going to win that league. Unlike last year, I don't think we feel overawed by any opposition and we've got a good chance."

Saturday's action sees the men travel to face Indian Gymkhana, before hosting St Albans a day later.

Collin hat-trick eases Angels to win over Stones

Maidstone United 0

Tonbridge Angels 3

A FRANNIE Collin hat-trick ensured Tonbridge took the derby spoils at Maidstone on Tuesday night and lifted the Angels to fourth in the Ryman Premier Division.

The Stones rarely troubled Lee Worgan in the visitors' goal and once Collin had opened the scoring on 14 minutes, there only ever looked to be one winner.

Having latched onto Lewis Taylor's header to bundle the ball home from close range, Collin doubled his tally late in the first-half with a free-kick which deflected wickedly beyond Stones goalkeeper Andy Walker.

Gary Wharton and Dean Rance both had chances to pull Maidstone back into the contest after the interval but Collin put the result beyond any doubt with a close-range finish just beyond the hour mark.

"We knew the importance of getting a reaction after [drawing on] Saturday and we got that," said Angels manager Tommy Warrilow. "It didn't matter how it came, it was just about getting the three points and the fact we managed to put a few goals behind us has obviously helped."

Wells boss refuses to give up hunt for title

By **STEVE TERVET**

TUNBRIDGE Wells manager Martin Larkin believes his side can forge a reputation as serious Kent League title contenders by beating league leaders Herne Bay this weekend.

A season of entertaining football and a glut of goals have given Wells real cause for optimism, but Larkin is eager for his side to be taken seriously across the county.

The Wells are nine places and 14 points adrift of Bay, but having played five games less Larkin knows there is still a window of opportunity for his side to claw back the deficit.

He said: "We've been instilling into the players that people are looking at us, but for them to take us seriously, we need to beat a big team. We'll attack them when we can and we'll give it a really good go because we've got a chance of pulling something off."

"We'll respect them because they're the favourites and they've got the best squad in the league, although our starting XI is up there. Their players up top, Stuart King and Luke Harvey, are as good as it gets, but we think Keelan [Mooney] and Hooley [Carl Cornell] are as good as it gets, so it'll be a good battle."

Humbling

Simon Halsey's side have suffered a rare blip in recent weeks, with their 2-1 FA Vase defeat to holders Whitley Bay preceding a 4-1 humbling at the hands of Erith Town last Saturday.

Meanwhile, Cornell plundered five goals as the Wells thrashed Fisher 7-1 at Culverden and Larkin admitted the forward's scintillating form is likely to attract fresh offers from interested clubs.

"That's always the problem we've got because the players are not on contracts, they're not paid," he said. "He's got 13 goals in nine league games, which is impressive for someone who joined us as a midfielder. His touch is good, his finishing's exceptional and we're lucky to have him."

"People can come in but Keelan turned down

Larkin says win over leaders Bay could spur players on to catch runaway rivals



Pictures: NICK DUNGAN

ON FIRE: Tunbridge Wells boss Martin Larkin hopes the potent firepower of Carl Cornell and Keelan Mooney (inset) can keep Wells in the Kent League title hunt against Herne Bay

a club last week. People will be watching Hooley so the club's got to do everything it can to make him happy. We've made him feel welcome and if anyone calls, I don't think he'll want to go."

Larkin, looking to end a run of three straight defeats against Bay since taking over as Wells manager, has a fully-fit squad to pick from and may draft Drew Crush back into central midfield.

Picture: DAVE COULDRIDGE



KNOCK: Danny Walder should be fit to play

Angels aim to hit back after Lowestoft collapse

TONBRIDGE Angels put their sparkling home record on the line again this weekend looking to banish the memory of Saturday's late horror show against Lowestoft Town.

Tommy Warrilow's side host struggling Aveley, looking to extend their 10-game unbeaten run at Longmead, although the Angels boss admits their second-half collapse against Lowestoft has given him sleepless nights in the interim.

Pressure

Leading 3-0 after 34 minutes, Tonbridge conceded late in the first-half and then cracked under pressure in the closing stages as the visitors roared back to snatch a 3-3 draw.

"I've got to hold my hands up and say I got it wrong," Warrilow said. "I was still planning on getting it over the top because they played such a high line and when they made it 3-2 we tried to shut up shop but it didn't make much difference."

However, Warrilow did take positives from the game, which saw his in-form side put three goals past a defence which had only conceded nine times in its previous 20 outings.

Having eased to a 3-0 win at Aveley in October, Angels start Saturday's game as comfortable favourites but Warrilow said their relative league positions would only place more pressure on Tonbridge to deliver.

"We've just got to treat everyone the same, whether they're at the top or the bottom," he said. "They've changed their manager [from Alan Kimble to Carl Griffiths], they've got one of my former players in Sherwin Stanley and they're getting stronger."

Ben Judge and Danny Walder are carrying slight knocks but both should be fit, while Fraser Logan could start his first home game since returning from Hastings United.



CAUTION: TJs skipper Will Thorpe says in-form Thanet Wanderers have nothing to lose
Picture: NICK DUNGAN

TJs facing a tricky trip to resurgent Wanderers

Leaders face Thanet side unbeaten since Christmas

By FRED ATKINS

AFTER taking another giant stride towards the National Leagues last week, Tonbridge Juddians travel to Thanet for a Kent derby this weekend looking to build on a 12-point lead at the top of the table.

Following a tough start to the season Thanet have improved and are now unbeaten in London 1 South since Christmas.

The Islanders are 10th and 24 points clear of the drop zone, which makes them potentially tricky opponents, according to TJs skipper Will Thorpe.

He said: "Teams like that have got nothing to lose, so they tend to throw the ball round with a bit more freedom and anything can happen."

"They've only lost at home once this season I believe, so it's going to be a tough game. A bonus point win would be lovely, but we'll take a win."

Coach Peter Dankert agreed, saying: "They've actually got the best home defensive record in the league. We're second and they're better than us by a point, so that does make them dangerous."

Injury

TJs are likely to be without Shaun Cooper, who was forced off with a leg injury during last Saturday's win over Beckenham.

The 20-13 win proved to be one of TJs' most nail-biting games in years, as they rallied from 13-8 down to secure a potentially crucial win with time running out.

"It was very, very close," admitted Thorpe.

"We've found ourselves in this position, trailing at half-time, a couple of times this season but what was pleasing was that we didn't panic and we managed to drag ourselves out of the hole we found ourselves in."

Charlie Harding's early penalty put TJs 3-0 ahead, but the visitors equalised and then took a 10-3 lead when they scored a converted try, despite having been reduced to 14 men by a yellow card.

Richard Nauer reduced the arrears with a try before half-time, but in the second-half Beckenham extended their lead with a penalty, only to miss a second kick.

In the final quarter TJs finally began to dominate and with 15 minutes left Nauer made it 13-13, before Harding's conversion saw the home side regain the lead.

A solo try by Nauer gave TJs some breathing space with what was almost the final play of the game.

Battle on to keep talent at Wells

TUNBRIDGE Wells face a battle to keep hold of their most gifted players as rival clubs begin to sniff around for useful additions ahead of the season finale.

Success has been thin on the ground at St Mark's this season and Wells head coach Jim Scully admits some of his players may become further unsettled by approaches from wealthier opponents.

With the rugby transfer window open until the end of February, plenty of players across Kent are expected to switch allegiances, but Scully is keen to hang onto his prize assets.

"There are certainly a lot of clubs looking at players, which is not easy for us to handle," he said. "We've had a couple of players approached so I hope their loyalties lie with Tunbridge Wells. This is a great club and the players are showing a lot of loyalty so I hope we can keep them and recruit ourselves."

The Wells have continually struggled for results in London 1 South this season but Scully admitted last Saturday's 64-7 defeat at Hove had marked a new low for his relegation-threatened side.

Tomasi Biutiviti's converted try marked the only bright spot on an otherwise gloomy afternoon in East Sussex as the Wells dropped back to the foot of the table.

"We had a bad day and I'm not quite sure why," Scully said. "It has a big effect on



HOT PROPERTY?: Ollie-Lewis Donaldson, one of Tunbridge Wells' brightest prospects

everyone – the players and the coaches – and it's going to be difficult this week to pick the guys up.

"We knew this was going to be a transition season but in the face of these results, it's very difficult to keep the team positive and

Saturday's result doesn't help at all."

The Wells have no fresh injury worries as they prepare for this weekend's trip to Sutton & Epsom, although Scully is likely to ring the changes in the light of the Hove humbling.



LOSING STREAK: Cranbrook are without a win in four months
Picture: NICK DUNGAN

Cranes in for a tough test at home to Park

CRANBROOK host Charlton Park at the Tomlin Ground this weekend looking to end a run of four months without a win in any competition.

The Cranes' relegation worries deepened last Saturday when they were beaten 26-19 at Horsham, the side directly above them in the table.

The West Sussex side, who were docked five points by the RFU for fielding an ineligible player earlier in the season, are four points clear of the Cranes, who are second bottom and have not won since beating Eastbourne 20-15 on October 2.

Charlton Park are challenging for promotion and are third in London 3 South East, losing just once all season, although they were pushed close last week when they won 23-22 at home to Folkestone.

Park needed a last second penalty to secure their comeback, having trailed by 10 points at the interval.



DRIVING SEAT: Win would put Oaks in a strong position
Picture: NICK DUNGAN

A match Oaks just can't afford to Lewes

FEW games have carried greater significance for Sevenoaks all season than this weekend's trip south to face promotion rivals Lewes.

Oaks, who sit third in London 2 South East, trail the East Sussex club by five points, but with a game in hand victory on the road would place them firmly in the driving seat with the campaign reaching a critical stage.

Last Saturday's 10-6 defeat to leaders Old Elthamians gave Sevenoaks plenty of cause for optimism, having led the title favourites for long periods before conceding a late try.

Chairman Lee Adamson said: "Having that big test a week before

Lewes and coming through as we did shows we can compete with the best sides in this league. It was the sort of game we'd have every week in the division above and the players loved the intensity of the occasion.

"Both teams played high-quality rugby. There were very few individual mistakes, they were two very strong sides but ultimately they had more 'game craft' than we did."

Oaks will be forced into a number of changes for the crunch clash, however, with open-side flanker Ian Collins away with the England Deaf side as they kick-off their Six Nations campaign against Wales.

ANGELS TO MAKE THE MOST OF LOGAN'S RUNS

By **STEVE TERVET**

THE LATEST addition to Tonbridge Angels' promotion-chasing squad has revealed manager Tommy Warrilow played a huge role in his decision to join the club for a second time.

Fraser Logan, released by Ryman Premier Division strugglers Hastings United last week, jumped at the chance to return to Longmead.

Winger thanks Warrilow for second chance

The Scottish winger, who had fallen out of favour in East Sussex, helped Tonbridge gain promotion from Ryman South in 2005-06 during an initial five-year stay and he is now looking to repeat the feat this term.

Logan made his second Angels debut from the bench in Tuesday's 3-0 derby win at Maidstone United and said there was no hesitation when given the opportunity to team up with Warrilow for a second time.

"I wasn't really happy at Hastings so I had to leave," he said. "They released me and Tommy phoned me straight away, so it was nice to get it sorted out fairly quickly."

"Obviously he was here when I was here before and I'd had success playing here so it's good to come somewhere where you feel wanted because that's going to make you play better. The fans like me, so that helps as well."

Logan, 26, was part of a Hastings side which topped the table in the early weeks of the season before plummeting into the relegation zone with an horrendous run which saw them pick up just four of a possible 45 points.

Confidence

When forward Ade Olorunda left the Us to join Tonbridge in December their task grew even tougher and Logan is already enjoying the winning environment in the Angels changing room.

He said: "It's a total change from getting beat every week to being part of a team that's pushing to get in the play-offs or a little bit higher."

"I had a chance to come here at the start of the season, although things didn't really work out, but it's good to be back around the place and the boys are doing really well."

"Winning games just breeds confidence and it comes from there. Everyone seems to beat one another in this league so if you can string a run together like Tonbridge have –



Picture: DAVE COULDRIDGE

GOOD TO BE BACK: Fraser Logan, pictured during his first spell with Tonbridge Angels

and if we can do that for the remainder of the season – we're going to be up there."

Logan, born in Glasgow, traces his footballing roots back to his days with Kilmarnock, where the end of his contract coincided with a holiday romance and a subsequent move south to join Lewes in 2004.

His first taste of Kent football came with a loan spell at Bromley in 2005, but Tonbridge were quick to secure his services the following season.

Now, having moved quickly to secure a replacement for out-going winger Rory Hill, Warrilow expects Logan to play a key role as Angels continue their quest to break into Conference South.

"He's given us some natural width," Warrilow said. "It's nice for him because I saw him a couple of times at Hastings and he was out there, not getting the ball. He knows how we play so we haven't got to drill into him what we want."



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Town eye revenge over Hythe after cup exit

WITH the memories of Tuesday night's Kent League cup quarter-final defeat to Hythe still raw, Sevenoaks Town travel to Reachfields this weekend looking for revenge.

Sevenoaks were arguably flattered by the 2-1 defeat at Hythe, a result which saw them lose 4-3 on aggregate, but manager Keith Levett feels his side learned enough from the experience to be able to challenge Scott Porter's side.

He said: "It's still fresh in our minds, so we know what we've got to do to turn it round."

"They only play one way so we know exactly what to expect. I wouldn't say they're a good footballing team, but what they do is very effective and we've got to be prepared for it."

Levett admitted to a tactical



ON TARGET: Adam Marsh, who scored in Tuesday's cup defeat

error on Tuesday night, saying what he'd tried, "hadn't really worked".

Hythe went ahead after just five

minutes after a superb free-kick from Lee Winfield, and Ronnie Dolan made it 2-0 on 36 minutes. Although Adam Marsh

reduced the arrears with a penalty four minutes after the restart, Sevenoaks seldom looked like drawing level and only Hythe's profligacy in front of goal prevented them from killing the tie off.

The former Tonbridge striker Brendon Cass and Gary Mickleborough both hit the crossbar, while another former Angel, Nick Barnes, had an excellent game.

Levett said: "We were bullied a little bit. They were stronger and more experienced than us and it showed. They were also a little bit fitter. They deserved to go through, but Saturday's another game."

Sevenoaks will be boosted by the return of midfielder Mark Axell after he was cup-tied on Tuesday night.

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

ISSN 2041938-4



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